

VOLUME 26
NUMBER 49

EUGENE Weekly

DECEMBER 6, 2007

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KYOTO Ten Years Later

Will humankind be able
to halt global warming?

And what about our local
transportation planning?
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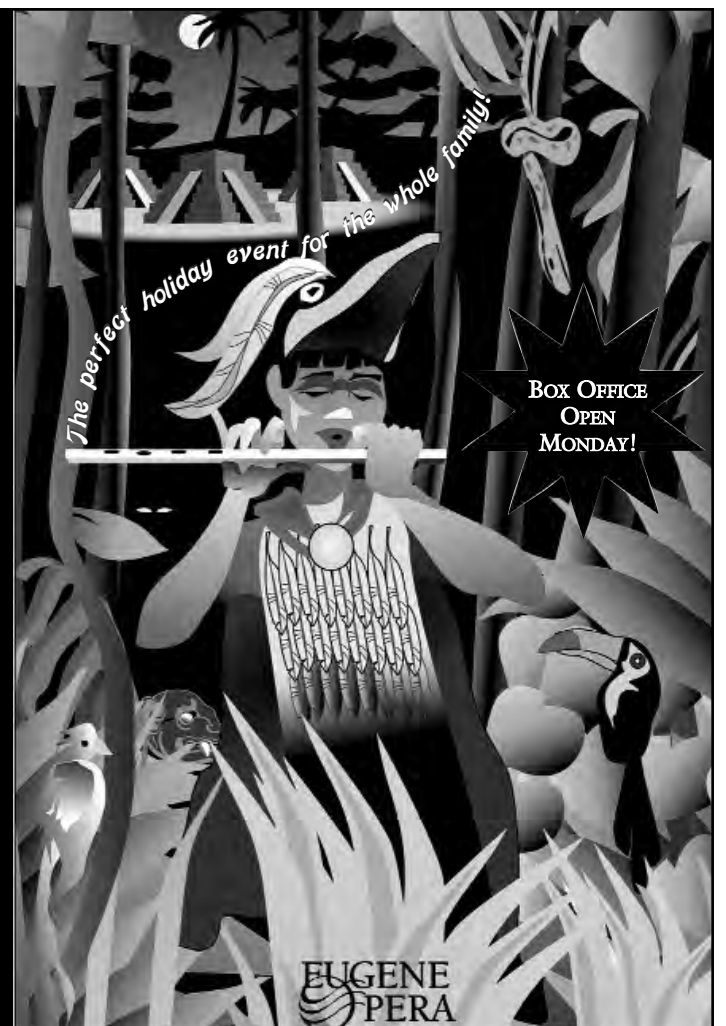
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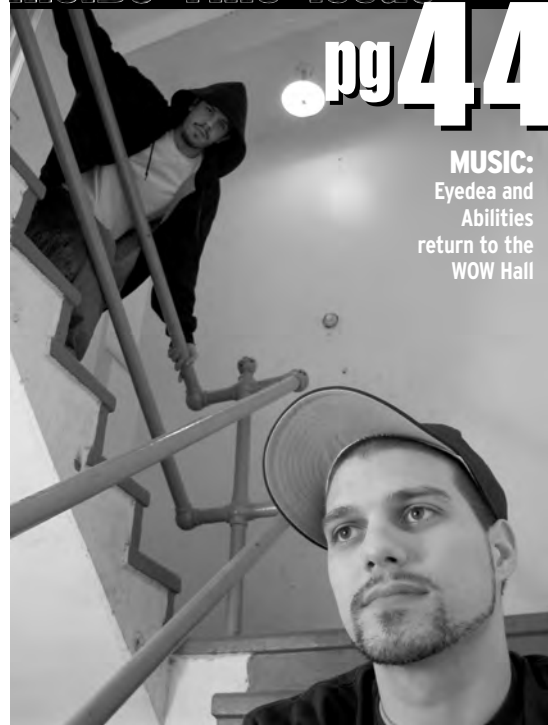
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25 years

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NAKED BIKE RIDE?

As a native Portlander, past Eugene resident and everyday cyclist, it comes as little surprise that the city's bike commuting rate is shrinking in the face of Portland's success (news story, 11/21).

Eugene essentially functions like a suburb, its citizens continually fighting increased density, beginning with past building height restrictions downtown in the hopes of "keeping things the same." These efforts have severely reduced the vibrancy of the urban core and pushed all new development along major arterials (read West 11th, Coburg Road, Highway 99, River Road), effectively preventing all but the bravest bike commuters from riding into town.

The city-sanctified Bridge Pedal has little to do with it — there are almost weekly events organized by Portland citizens, nonprofits and businesses, and if Eugeneans really wanted a bike event, they could organize one independently (naked bike ride, anyone?). But this tradition of (over)reactive citizenship instead of proactive leadership typifies the town; all those abandoned warehouses along the river were just waiting for their Pearl District makeover, and some denser student housing in place of the rotten west campus slums would be an extra bonus.

You want more bikes? Replace all the ground level parking lots downtown with one

garage (it can even be underground like Portland's newest park) and build mixed-use. You don't need more parks, you don't need more bike boulevards; the bikers will ride in *past* the car traffic, and the downtown residents will walk. As far as all the West 11ths/82nds of the world: The sins of the father will visit the children.

Michael Geffel
Portland

GREEN ROOF EUGENE

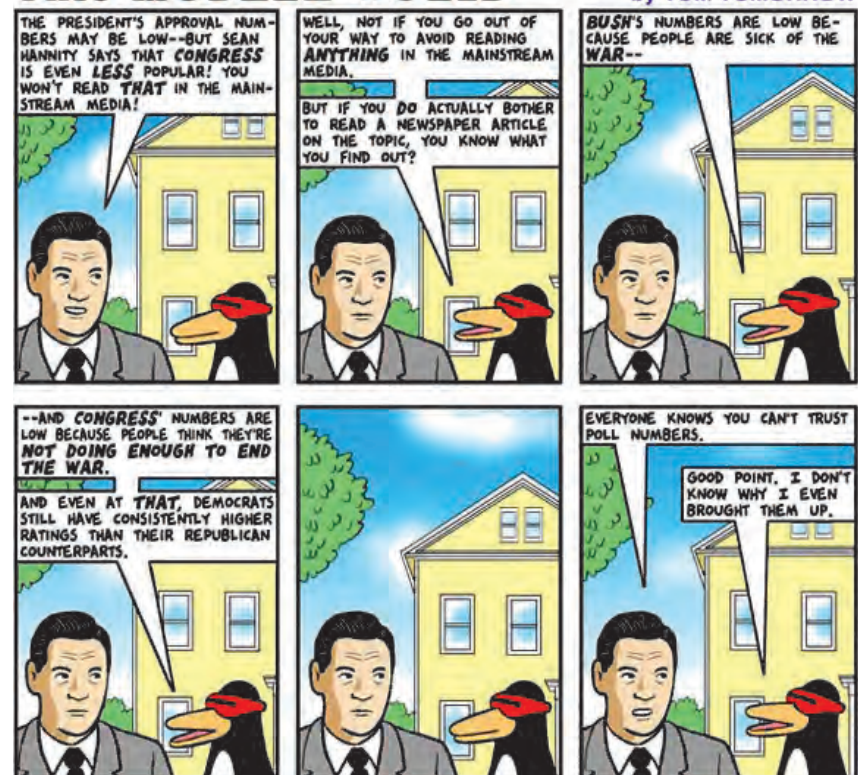
With all this talk of revamping downtown; the thoughts of tearing down established (and wanted) buildings so the city can allot more money into "new growth": Why not put more green into Eugene?

I bike around and I see posters saying "Strawberry Fields or Cement" and other catchphrases. Why not reach a happy medium? The city already wants to "invest" a lot of money in making downtown more productive. So I suggest putting what are known as green roofs on the older buildings, and with the new ones that might get built, make it mandatory to put green roofs on them as well.

The idea is simple: Bring back some of the organic material displaced by development these days. We all know it's always hotter in the city, which makes the energy costs a

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



little excessive during the heat waves. With the placement of green roofs, we would get things like: keeping it cool for those hot summer times. Working with maintaining stormwater overflow. Helping insulate the heat for

the rest of Oregon's breezy and notorious weather. And, of course, bringing back the greenery of what Eugeneans love so much about Oregon. Old civilizations have been documented to do this. People in the Bronx

natural resistance BY MARY O'BRIEN

Irreconcilable Differences?

Tackling the impossible through collaboration



I promise to report back a year from now. I'm participating in two collaborative efforts wherein people who have disagreed for a long time have agreed to try to agree. By next December, when I'll report again, each collaboration will be succeeding, middling or failing. I don't know how (or whether) differences will be resolved, but if "Peace on Earth" is going to remain a reasonable human goal, people who disagree are going to have to do something other than merely trying to defeat or kill each other.

The first is the urban West Eugene Collaboration, which includes conservationists, business, government and community representatives. Its long-sentence purpose is to "Develop an integrated land use and transportation solution supported by stakeholders that will facilitate movement of people and commerce from/through/to west Eugene and west of Eugene while enhancing community, business, and the environment." In other words, think of something to do other than arguing about the 20-year-old West Eugene Parkway. We plan to propose solutions by December 2008.

It will be quite the accomplishment if we come up with a land use and transportation solution supported by Eugene's divided stakeholders. Likewise, it is quite the task to figure out how to *enhance* the environment with land use and transportation developments rather than merely limiting environmental *damage* of such developments. But that's the ambitious goal.

The second collaboration is the rural southern Utah Tushar Allotments Collaboration (<http://tushar.ecr.gov>), which includes conservationists, cattle permittees and government representatives. Its goal is to agree by April 2009 on changed practices on two long-overgrazed cattle allotments of 42,000 acres.

The odds against consensus solutions in either of these face-to-face collaborative groups might seem long, but here are some elements I see going for both:

- *Unfounded claims can be challenged* more effectively than from behind dueling op ed pieces, organizations or ads.
- *Joint on-ground visits* to sites of disputes or proposals change perceptions and increase mutual understanding.
- *Joint gathering and examination of evidence* reduces both ignorance and PR spin.
- *Each participant's proposals and concerns matter*, reducing inequalities in numerical, economic or political power.
- *Each participant has the responsibility to put forward proposals* she or he thinks the others can live with rather than merely putting forth demands.

- *Listening is rewarded* because those who listen will better discern what proposals might appeal.
- *Innovation is rewarded* because rehashed proposals won't move people out of their corners.
- *Hard work is rewarded* because those who develop the best information-based proposals are the most likely to see them incorporated.
- *Being sleazy won't get anyone far* because everyone else is watching.
- *Anyone can ask crucial questions* that often aren't asked in standard planning processes.
- *Some people are funnier face-to-face*, which helps free people.
- *Affection*, spontaneously arising as it does among at least some people who spend time together, reduces rigidities.
- *Both collaborations have neutral facilitators* to keep the process moving and fair.

Well, that's fine for process. How do joint solutions arise despite fundamental differences? For instance, take the West Eugene Collaboration. I believe we should make every possible contribution toward reliance on public transit, non-motorized transportation and altered configuration of homes, businesses and industry because 1) global warming = global biological, social, economic and political

It will be quite the accomplishment if we come up with a land use and transportation solution supported by Eugene's divided stakeholders.

crises; and 2) U.S. transportation alone emits more carbon dioxide (CO₂) than all but three other countries' emissions from all sources combined. A second participant has said it doesn't matter if we reduce CO₂ emissions because someone else will burn oil if we

don't. A third figures technological fixes will allow us to have more cars. And a fourth claims human activities aren't causing global warming.

By themselves, these beliefs would lead to varied, perhaps irreconcilable, proposals for west Eugene land use and transportation. But such beliefs don't exist in isolation from other beliefs held by the same four individuals that *do* coincide. Further, solutions we consider here don't exist in isolation from other cities' innovations that might appeal to us *despite* our different perspectives on cars and global warming.

It is the multiplicity of beliefs, findings and innovations worldwide, in combination with processes such as those listed above, that allow diverse participants to have a hope of configuring solutions acceptable to them and their communities.

At least that's my belief. Let's see where we get by next December.

Mary O'Brien of Eugene has worked as a public interest scientist since 1981. She can be reached at mob@efn.org

are doing it, Chicago, Massachusetts and Washington, D.C., as well. Even Wal-Mart. So why not Eugene?

Gwyn Marlow
Eugene

DANCING & HUGGING

Thanks for that glimpse into the heart of the Holiday Market (Slant, 11/21); you captured the joy of the event so well. The dancing and hugging in the aisles continues daily, and the crowds are showing up and enthusiastically supporting local artistry and commerce. Thanks for the multiple mentions of our event throughout last week's issue — I think it really helped raise awareness and get folks in the door.

Thanks also for mentioning the great lineup of live music. This community of ours is abundant with talented musicians, and I could easily book twice the number of acts and still not fit everyone who deserves to be heard and appreciated on the schedule. For the past 16 years I have been fortunate to work with these people both as "Whoever's in charge of the live music," and as "Whoever's running the sound board," which is a rare position to be in. I get to experience firsthand, every week, what this dedicated, generous, talented group of visionaries have to contribute to the spirit of this place we've chosen to live in. I get to see them help folks smile and laugh and cry and dance and sit still and listen, and take them away from the everyday with the sounds they make. It's a blessing to behold.

They say that good management is invisible, so I'll take it as a compliment that I'm a "whoever" in this case. I do prefer to enable horn tooting, rather than toot my own horn, but just this once, a short blast — I'm Kim Still, manager of market promotions and advertising at Saturday Market and Holiday Market, and I book the music and run the sound board and do all kinds of other Market promoting things.

Glad to know you appreciate the Market. Indeed it is an amazing community resource!

Kim Still
Saturday Market

BEST BEST SERVICE

This is in response to the Nov. 8 letter by Seth Long and the Ring of Fire crew (which itself was in response to the *EW*'s mentioning Ring of Fire restaurant in their Best of Eugene issue, Oct. 25). "Though you might receive the *best* best service if you're a gay man, service for the rest of us ain't too shabby either," *EW* wrote.

I'm a gay man, but I'm not generally identified as gay, even by other gay guys — I just plain don't get noticed that way, for the most part. So I guess my restaurant service wasn't as good as it could be? Don't get me wrong, I have always loved my dining experience at Ring of Fire. The food is great and the staff are friendly and good at what they do. I just thought it was kind of funny *EW* wrote what it did, but I also thought it was cool because a Corvallis equivalent of the *EW* would *never* have the huevos to write something like that, even about a business everybody knew was overwhelmingly GLBT ... if there were any here.

I remembered dining at ROF, and it spurred some introspection. I get the same thing at Snafu (coincidentally a partner business of Ring of Fire), where there's nowhere besides outside the building to talk to people without screaming at the top of your lungs. I've noticed people don't want strike up conversation unless you look like you fell out of an Aberzombie catalogue, fuck with your eyebrows, are Auschwitz-skinny, or it's a friend you already knew from Neighbors back when it was open. So when you're the one who tries to start a conversation, you get snotty comments and/or ignored.

I miss Neighbors. It was a bigger space with places where you could actually talk with people and had a wider (better?) variety of people to meet and chat with.

Ryan Thompson
Corvallis

A BAD DEAL

The BLM's ongoing Western Oregon Plan Revisions are quickly moving toward opening tens of thousands of acres of ancient forests to logging. These lands were originally given to the Oregon and California (O&C) Railroad Company for construction

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iASK A MEXICAN! Letters

GIVING VOICE TO IGNORANCE

The Eugene-Springfield Solidarity Network/Jobs with Justice stands with CAUSA and the local Latino/a community in expressing our outrage and disappointment about *EW*'s decision to continue running Gustavo Arellano's offensive and dangerous column, "iAsk a Mexican!" If *EW* wants to "ask a Mexican" in order to educate our community about Latino culture and history, we are blessed to have many local activists and educators who could share meaningful, relevant information, rather than encouraging racist and ignorant stereotyping.

Arellano has a right to express his brand of cruel humor, just as the editors of *EW* have a right to run the column. However, by doing so, *EW* is showing that it is more committed to giving voice to ignorance and fanning the flames of racism than it is to respecting the requests of many local readers, including ESSN/JwJ, who want to see the column canceled.

We would much rather read a column written by local Latino/a activists who can share with *EW* readers the realities of Latino/a life in our community!

Maybe we could actually learn how to be better allies rather than seeing a weekly opportunity for racist stereotyping!

For the Steering Committee of ESSN/JwJ,

Bayla Ostrach
Eugene

DANGEROUS HUMOR

Was Lenny Bruce funny? Is Margaret Cho funny? I think, to respond to Roscoe Caron's comment (letters, 11/29), that Gustavo Arellano knows exactly where he is (Orange County) and exactly how dangerous his humor is. If humor isn't dangerous, it's not effective. You can't use safe humor as an organizing tool. Maybe that's why the labor movement has nearly collapsed: It's afraid of humor. If a comedian isn't walking a tight rope, no one pays any attention.

I think that Arellano's columns are full of love. I hope the *Weekly* continues to run them. They are some of the best pieces of writing I've seen in this newspaper.

Ann Tattersall
Eugene

HEED THE FEEDBACK

I hope you will heed the voices of our local community who are asking for the "iAsk A Mexican!" column to be replaced with a regular column written by Latinos and Latinas in the Eugene-Springfield area.

You'll undoubtedly attract a larger audience with these local voices, which beats the alternative of offending people who are already assaulted daily with hate speech, hate legislation and so much other singling out for unequal treatment.

I know your intent is not to publish material that hurts innocent people, and it's also probably not the columnist's intent. But the effect is what counts, and the effect in this community is what you're being asked to stop – and you can do your part to stop it.

Thanks for what I hope is your willing-

ness to heed community feedback from those who are on the frontlines of anti-migrant sentiment. Let's all of us who have any bit of power do everything we can to make a difference and make Eugene a welcome place for all!

Hope Marston
Eugene

THE SPICY APPROACH

When I suggested to the *Weekly* editors that it was way past time for a regular column by local people of color, or rotating local people of color, I have to admit that my bias for Latino writers tended towards Richard and Patricia's "Column of the Americas" more than "iAsk A Mexican!" But like Dan Savage's "Savage Love," "iAsk A Mexican!" is hella entertaining.

If you've ever hung wit' Latinos, then you know part of what you're getting is the simulated thoughts of a cultural insider speaking in a vernacular that only white people willing to hang with people of color with their hair down and their culturally smiling masks (and gloves) off would know.

In order to hang wit' 'em, you can't be a stereotypical culturally amnesiac American ignorant of commonly known (among us anyway) history. We have to know about Shakespeare and Chaucer, while you remain ignorant of, say Vincente Riva Palacio. *Parlez-vous* double insult, *cabrones*?

Basically, when a white calls all Latinos Mexicans, he's turning the cultural tables, and yeah, it's insulting both ways. But which voice do you hear most from? That is assuming [Arellano] is Mexican, and not a white guy fronting.

To the degree that satire is enlightening is the degree that one can get past the shock and insult and dig for the facts of what he's referring to. What is the *reconquista*? What about white invasions of Mexico and California? Why would Mexicans think the Spanish named states of the U.S. were stolen?

The drawback to the spicy approach is that some people are so dense they won't take the time to learn from either a low-brow or high-brow approach.

Mark Harris
Eugene

EDUCATED CHICANO

Oregon is white and bleeding red (spirit of Indians), and there are very few Hispanic writers in good ol' Oregon. How many of you gringos read the *Hispanic News*, *Noticias*, *Puertolandia*?

Danger! Gustavo Arellano is an educated Mexican; that's what this whole fuss is about. Reading the responses by all the whiners, I saw no criticism on historical evidence or research presented by Arellano. I read: "He is racist! He is reinforcing stereotypes!" Blah, blah, c'mon progressive liberals (Google "freedom of speech").

More than a voice, Arellano provides a little history on white hypocrisy and Mexican bigotry and homophobia, but most of the time he brings positive notes to the table. I think it's safe to say: White, middle-class-hippie-organic-vegetarians in Eugene feel guilty with so much history

(read, the lies my teacher told me); they hide behind the rhetoric: everything is fine, as long as these pitiful minorities keep quiet and don't raise their voices. Once somebody like Arellano provides a piece of research to all of us, suddenly we abandon our salsa dancing lessons and our foreign films (sound familiar?) to scream at the *EW* editors. Oregon, we love dreamers, but sometimes we have to see the realities. I'm not scared of those rednecks who are blatant explicit racists; I'm scared about the backstabbers who hide behind the peace sign, just like a cheating wife or husband or partner.

Hey *gabachos*, rather than complaining against a *compadre*, why don't you complain against your *compadre* Lou Dobbs. Oh, by the way, we felt abandoned by the progressive hippies during our May 1st demonstration (read Sensenbrenner bill) last year in Salem, Corvallis and Eugene.

Si yu laiter, amigos.

Pedro Rosa-Meleño
Eugene

OVER THE TOP

My two cents on your running the "iAsk A Mexican!" column is that it is that the extreme sarcasm of Arellano's humor is a bit over the top for current Eugene to the point where many people, Anglos and Latinos alike, will perceive it to be nothing more than offensive.

I think if you are going to persist in running the column, you should at least go to the effort of running some serious stories, commentaries, etc. on local/statewide Latino realities. Especially in a year when immigrant and Latino communities are under severe attack by racist and right wing forces, I look to you to be supportive of human rights and positive, inclusive social solutions.

Herb Everett
Eugene

THE RACE CARD

Since Gustavo Arellano clearly thinks the U.S. should welcome the tsunami of humanity pouring illegally across our southern border – and since *EW* apparently agrees – why don't you write a piece on what Mexican authorities would do to a U.S. citizen or a Guatemalan caught trying to enter Mexico illegally?

Arellano had no intelligent response when I "asked a Mexican." Instead, he – like most open borders proponents – plays the "race" and "hate" cards against those of us who want our laws enforced.

Jerry Ritter
Springfield

JUST A SMOKESCREEN

I guess I'm just one of those people Gustavo Arellano has labeled a "PC *pen-dejo*," but I still can't see how his insistent use of a racist piece of crap like his logo can turn said crap into a shining tool for undoing racism. Maybe this kind of postmodern alchemy works in grad-level sociology classes or maybe even in his Orange County stomping ground. But unless he can show his work, I'm tempted to believe that the rambling rationales he gave in his interview in the Nov. 29 issue of the *EW* are

just a smokescreen for what he's really trying to do: draw attention to himself.

It's not for nothing that Arellano has been dubbed "the Paris Hilton of the Latino journalism world" by *L.A. Times* critic Agustin Gurza. In fact, speaking to the L.A. Press Club recently (video available on YouTube), the rationale Arellano gave to that audience was that the logo draws young people's attention to his column.

Despite protests to the contrary, Gustavo Arellano really is *the* "Mexican" voice of *EW*. Our community deserves a local Latino voice, to address Latino issues from a local perspective, not a snarky, self-serving, syndicated columnist who tries to offend as many people as he informs.

EW can be an outlet for local community voices, or a weekly collection of ads and movie reviews with filler from "edgy" syndicated columnists. Which is it gonna be, *EW*?

Scott Miksch
Eugene

BEYOND COMFORT ZONE

Ha ha, you all kill me. Seriously, do you think we're so advanced that we need not discuss race? There is a time for everything, and cleaning the dirt out of the wounds is what is needed now. Yes, you will be somewhat uncomfortable. Deal with it! Actually, we'll all deal with it as a community. Yes, we should be uncomfortable. I'd be ashamed to not be.

Trevor Ballard
Eugene

NOT ABOUT RACE

It's extremely ignorant to assume that just because we do not want our borders invaded by illegal aliens (many of them are from South and Central America as well as Mexico) and we do not want illegal aliens to live here and work here, that does not mean we have stereotypes of Mexicans, and we have to "be educated." My Mexican friends in California, who were legal citizens of America, did not like the U.S. being invaded by illegals who come over the border, either.

They were the ones who pointed out the dangerous gangs in our neighborhood who they knew came over the border illegally and were now making our area very dangerous. My friends were legal citizens of the U.S., and they told me they did not like illegals coming over the borders anymore than we white people did. In other words, this dislike of "Mexicans" is not a racist problem; it is anger from all American citizens of having their borders invaded by illegal aliens (of any kind) and having them come over, live here, work, have families and not come through the front door like all the other immigrants are forced to do.

Get that through your head, *EW*: It is not a "racist problem," it is an immigration and border-invasion problem. We do not want any race invading our borders, illegally, stomping in and declaring that they have as many rights as any immigrant who has to come in legally. Do you finally understand the problem? Get people to come in the front door of the U.S. or not to come in at all. Stop insulting our intelligence with stuff like (this) "iAsk a Mexican!" B.S.

D.H. Bucher
Eugene

of a railroad and later came under BLM management. When the management plan for these lands was written, timber was king. Forest management is now guided by an entirely different set of principles where any number of management activities might be prioritized over industrial logging. For example, the Bull Run Watershed, once roaded and partially logged, is now protected for the clean, fresh drinking water it provides for the city of Portland.

We are incredibly fortunate that old-growth forest remains on these BLM lands and clearly it should be protected. Old-growth forests are storehouses of biodiversity, producers of fresh water, factories for clean air, banks of stored carbon and offer opportunities for sustainable economies and refuge for human beings.

Observation and science have shown that fire burns as a mosaic in old-growth forests, resulting in complex landscapes, whereas tree farms burn hot and fast, leaving few structural legacies and stark landscapes with damaged aquatic ecosystems.

The BLM's statistics show that old-growth forests are far below their historic level while dense, even-aged tree plantations represent more than 30 percent of the planning area. Why doesn't the timber industry focus on forestry that enhances the existing plantations with a mosaic of patterns and tree spacing instead of logging irreplaceable old growth forests?

David Mildrexler
Joseph

KILLER TREE

While I wholeheartedly agree on the value of saving trees, I thought I should tell you of one occasion where someone was killed by a failing tree. Working from memory here, but perhaps five or six years ago (perhaps longer) someone was driving down Jefferson, and at approximately 9th Avenue one of the big street trees on the west side of the street had a limb fall as the car passed underneath. It crushed and killed the occupant, a male I believe, and the car ran off the street and crashed into a house a few feet away.

I really enjoy the canopy on Jefferson street but I fear as the trees age we will lose their beautiful arching over the street. I can't remember offhand, but I don't believe a tree was ever planted to replace the one they took out after the limb fell.

I have also worked to get the city to replant the big trees in Sladden Park as they fall every few years in the storms. We've lost about 10 trees in the last 25 years, and only about three or four years ago was I able to get the city to plant a few new trees. I think they

planted five or six.

I was amazed that the city tree "specialist" didn't understand the concept of the small trees being planted on the west side of the park as a wind break for the big trees in the winter storms. He was particularly offended that I tried to discuss this with him and was rude and abrupt with me afterwards. I don't know where the city hires their arborists, but they need to study nature more and build an understanding of how trees interact with each other rather than just having a knowledge of single trees.

If we want to be a "Tree City" we should build a canopy, not just plant a tree.

Thanks for the article (cover story, 11/12).
Cathy Evans
Eugene

QUIT YAPPING

A few simple requests:

1. Keep running the meth ads. They're downright disgusting but I appreciate the practical approach regarding these thieving, drugged-up parasites who raise their children on the freakin' dole (no shit, a couple of them live up the street from me).

2. Local companies — quit crowing about how goddamned green you are and do it for its own sake. Self-righteousness belongs to the right, not the left (if you robots want to categorize such things so simply).

3. Downtown has sucked since our glorious overseers dug out the fountain. Here's my idea: Put the fucking fountain back in! How's that for "revitalization"?

4. I'm glad my scooter is a classic so I don't have to worry about its two-stroke engine being taken off the road, but for those greenies out there, I encourage you to support P-Town Scooters up in Portland regarding their biodiesel conversion for the older two-strokes. For now I'm just happy watching a thick cloud of two-stroke smoke waft down the street when I start the scooter (and I'll get another one back on the road soon!). Suck it up, hippies!

5. WOW Hall — Quit booking pretentious assholes like Bassnectar who won't allow the local artists opening for their show to get paid. I went to see a friend spin, she got nothing, and "Suckcheddar" got everything. Sickening.

6. Quit yapping about "diversity" while you live in one the most white-bread cities in the country. It's tiring. boorish and stupidly loud. I have a better idea: Follow the Golden Rule and shut the hell up.

7. Bier Stein — Find a distributor for Rebel. NOW. Klaster comes in a bottle too big for the lunch break and, by your own admission, Rebel has won most of your lager taste competitions. I promise to buy a six-pack every week.

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Oh, and your reubens are too gristly, even if the pasta salad more than makes up for it.

Justin Bengtson
Eugene

IMPORTED HERB

Thank goodness for *EW* letters. 'Tis about the only place to find occasional mention of the War On (some) Drugs. Writer Robert Simms, in his letter "Politics of Poppies" (11/15), makes noise about some of the most

glaring points in the perpetuity of failure that is the drug war.

Besides the economic boost our drug war is providing to the Taliban and others in the Middle East, here at home the story is the same but different. Instead of funding the Taliban, we here in the U.S. fund Asian cartels operating indoor pot farms and Latin American crime organizations responsible for outdoor pot "farms" growing thousands and tens of thousands of plants in single loca-

tions, ruining domestic water sources and destroying habitat. Where once domestic herb came from the toil of hard-working locals, now we have international criminal syndicates reaping the profits.

The drug war is a boon, a goose laying golden eggs, for the world's drug cartels (and its corporate counterpart, the for-profit military-drugwar-industrial-prison-complex).

Here in Oregon — where we have probably the nation's most successful medical

cannabis program — "crime fighting" knucklehead Kevin Mannix is seeking to dismantle the state's self-sufficient Oregon Medical Marijuana Program (OMMP) and replace it with a policy that would have the state paying for the synthetic cannabinoid pharmaceutical Marinol for patients who want to continue using cannabis medicine. He wants to replace a program (the OMMP) that put back almost one million dollars into the state's coffers in 2005. How many med-

viewpoint BY MARK GILLEM

Land Clash

The impact of our sprawling military outposts

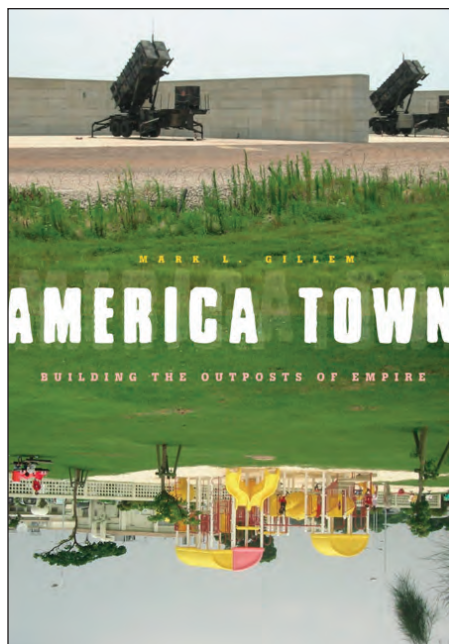
"Can you drop 500 feet?" I asked the pilot. "Sorry, I can barely hear you," came the muffled reply. After I adjusted my headset, I tried again. The helmet kept out some of the din, but I could still barely hear the pilot's confirming response, "OK, entering 2,500 feet."

I felt it, though. The drop and accompanying banking maneuver forced me against the seat. We had lifted off just after sunrise and were hovering near the Pacific coastline. A cerulean sky and still seas would greet the throngs of swimmers and boaters that usually played over the colorful coral reefs. After arriving at the right spot, I opened the side door and pulled a spring-loaded lever; my seat lunged out of the hovering Blackhawk and locked into place with a jerk. I was outside the relative safety of the helicopter, and the only thing between the ground and my seat was 2,500 feet of clear air.

With the exterior seat firmly in place, I began the photo shoot. I took the best shots when the helicopter was banking 90 degrees and I was face down above the striking landscape of Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan. Beneath me was the landscape of America's Defense Department sprawled across the beautiful tropical island.

The most striking views were at the borders where the 11,018-acre base met its Japanese neighbors. America's landscapes of consumption had found their way to Okinawa. The base's subdivisions and strip malls abutted the compact urban fabric of Okinawa-chi, Kadena-cho and Chatan-cho. The golf course stood ready to defend the base at its western edge. The split-level ranch homes had yards big enough to land several Blackhawks. The main shopping center's parking lot was bigger than the dense town center of Okinawa-chi. What was the U.S. doing building like this in a place so short of land that airports are constructed on artificial islands?

Since Sept. 11, 2001, scholars have published numerous books on empire. Some have even focused on the expanding network of America's overseas bases. Yet none of these authors addressed questions I posed in the Blackhawk that morning. Their focus has principally been on the strategic implications of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. On the political left, these wars testified to imperial hubris. America was acting largely alone, without the consent of the global order. On the political right, scholars viewed the wars as a justifiable use of imperial power. Largely missing from these accounts, however, was a discussion of the spatial impacts of projecting imperial might. I am not interested in essentializing American troops as lazy, sex-starved imperial storm troopers, as some writers have done. Nor am I content with simply quantifying the impact in terms of the numbers of overseas bases — which now totals nearly 900 bases occupying more than 700,000 acres. Sheer numbers can mask real issues. As an architect and planner, I am more interested in the actual bases themselves and the processes used in their design and planning. How imperial powers use land is a significant concern. Despite widespread media attention focusing on the tragic stories of rapes, deadly accidents and environmental damage, surveys of local residents near some of these outposts reveal not so much an all-consuming desire for their demise but disgust, above all, with the excessive use of land by American forces. The excesses of American culture are indeed most evident in the way the U.S. military consumes land.



An aerial photo shows urban Okinawa on the left and the sprawling U.S. Air Force Kadena Air base on the right

A few years ago, in a unique form of protest against these land use practices, the Korea Confederation of Trade Unions coordinated the efforts of 600 citizens under a "buy one pyong movement" to acquire land just outside Osan Air Base as a symbolic foothold against its growth. One pyong is about 35.5 square feet. Like the Japanese tsubo (which is also roughly 35.5 square feet), this measure is a telling example of the value of land. American planners typically measure land in terms of acres. One acre is 43,560 square feet. While land has been plentiful in America, the units of measure in South Korea and Japan reveal that land is a precious resource. After all, banks do not measure gold by the ton but by the ounce. Blissfully unaware of the value of foreign land, military planners continue to demand even more of it for their sprawling compounds. In February 2007, for example, more than 80,000 Italians marched in protest of a planned expansion of a U.S. Army installation near Vicenza, Italy. In Asia and Europe, American land use practices are helping convert allies into opponents.

Imperial powers have extended an imposing reach across the globe, which at a minimum included the establishment of temporary and permanent military outposts used both to project imperial power and to control the occupied territories and populations. From the Peloponnesian wars to the Iraq wars, building military outposts has been a central function of power projection that scholars too often ignore in the imperial debates. These places, built by and for expatriates, incorporate familiar building patterns but are also transformed by local conditions. They bring together diaspora communities searching for spatial familiarity.

Understanding the impact of these outposts is increasingly relevant in this era of preemptive war. This summer the Bush administration cited South Korea as its model for "temporary" outposts in Iraq. Department of Defense leaders favor an extended troop presence similar to the South Korea model, where the U.S. still has roughly 37,000 soldiers more than 50 years after the end of armed conflict. By looking at "enduring" outposts in South Korea, we may be able to better understand what might happen in these war-torn regions as "temporary" locations often become "permanent."

I suggest that the spatial model used for these enduring outposts is a low-density suburb, exported from the homeland, replete with auto dependency, isolated uses and low net densities. It is a model that requires vast tracts of buildable land to give residents a slice of the American Dream. It requires the demolition of Korean villages and Italian farms. And it is a model that vastly increases the social, political and environmental cost of empire's reach.

Mark L. Gillem is the author of *America Town: Building the Outposts of Empire* (University of Minnesota Press, 2007). He teaches in the departments of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at the UO.

ical programs put money IN to a state's funds?

While those who oppose the war in Iraq hold large demonstrations and get major air-time on national media, the drug war gets no or little notice. Even though our drug policies affect every community in the nation, seriously continue to erode the Constitution and have police raiding homes in military assault team fashion (anyone remember 5th and Adams?) the War On (some) Drugs remains the forgotten stepchild of politics.

Allan Erickson
Eugene

A VICIOUS CYCLE

I'm a soldier. Every day when I step out my front door, I enter a war zone. To cross the battlefield alive I dodge hurtling missiles of all shapes and sizes capable of tearing me apart. Sometimes I'm assaulted by hundreds of missiles at a time — a day does not pass where I'm not inches from losing my life.

I gasp through low-hanging clouds of poison gas as I make my way as quickly and as safely as I can across the battlefield. I'm jarred by craters and a never-ending array of obstacles blocking my path, threatening to waylay, injure or kill me.

There are days when I feel like giving up. When the battle seems too hopeless. When there are too few standing by my side. When the stress of each day's hellish journey sets my teeth grinding through the night and my sleep is plagued by nightmares as a corpse is plagued by worms.

Then I remember what I'm fighting for and that I believe in the cause. And that I have an obligation to do what I know is best for my fellow citizens, my country and future generations. Though I'm not a violent person, I realize sometimes you must fight for your freedoms.

So I carry on.

The sad thing is, I never signed up for this war. I wasn't even drafted. All I ever wanted to do was ride my bicycle across Eugene to work in the morning.

Josh Schlossberg
Eugene

RAIDERS OF THE YARD

About 12 years ago, after moving into our new home, I tried to grow roses. Well, it was a short lived attempt. I planted them, and the next thing I knew they were gone. Oh, not dead. Some rose deprived person felt they would look better in their yard. I attempted to reclaim them. Followed a trail of dirt from First Avenue to Whiteaker school. Unfortunately the trail ended. So, I hope the roses got black spot and it spread to all of your other plants. Well, over the years I have tried to have other yard art. Things have continued to disappear.

The final straw was Buddha from our

front porch. You know that person will have bad karma for many lifetimes. So, to the most recent attempt: You know who you are. Are your hands OK? I hope it was a painful attempt at thievery.

Shannon Buck
Eugene

TWO WHEELS ARE BEST

As our tragic occupation in the Middle East rages on, what can we do here at home that can impact it? So many of us have been untouched by this that we don't even think about it on a daily basis. Well, it's still going on; innocent people are dying every day and our tax dollars are funding it.

One reason for our presence there is to secure oil supplies for the U.S. Therefore, one way we can impact the situation is to lessen our demand for oil! I live on a busy street. There is seldom a quiet moment from the noise of cars hurling past. This is a bike-friendly community with plenty of local shops that provide waterproof gear of all types. This is the kind of city that should be leading the way for the rest of the nation. Why don't we truly make an effort, make a sacrifice ourselves and commit to the bicycle commute! Not only will it dampen our push for foreign oil, it will save us money as the cost of oil nears \$100 a barrel, and the exercise will get our hearts pumping first thing in the morning.

Want peace? You can start by bicycling.

Margaret Beavers
Eugene

JUST BUREAUCRATS

Thanks for publishing Robert Simms' outstanding letter: "Politics of Poppies" (11/15). I especially liked his line, "this war (drug war) was never meant to be won."

U. S. drug czar John Walters is essentially the head cheerleader for the drug war bureaucracy. Like all bureaucrats, his goal is the continuation and expansion of his bureaucracy. All bureaucracies want more power and more money. The drug-war bureaucracy is no exception.

The only way to achieve victory in the so-called drug war is to re-legalize all of our now illegal drugs so they can be sold in licensed, regulated and taxed businesses.

Victory is not the goal of the drug war. Victory in the drug war would mean that the drug war bureaucracy is out of business. Victory in the drug war would mean that our robust prison building industry would come to a screeching halt.

Victory in the drug war would mean that thousands of so-called drug warriors would be looking for a job or working at quickie marts.

Kirk Muse
Mesa, Ariz.



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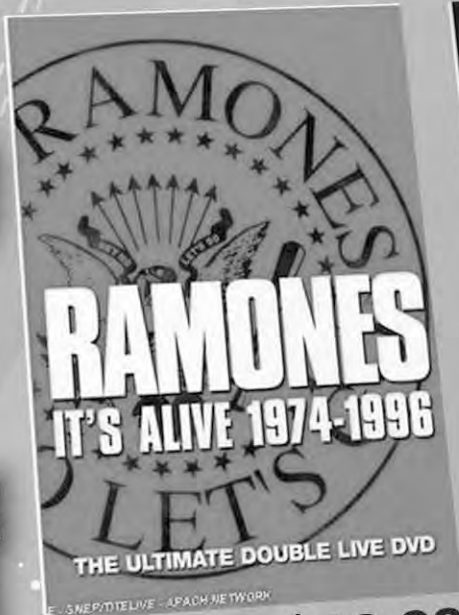


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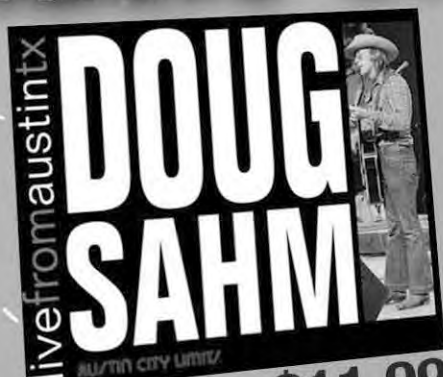
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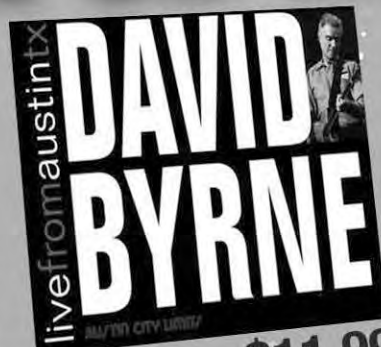
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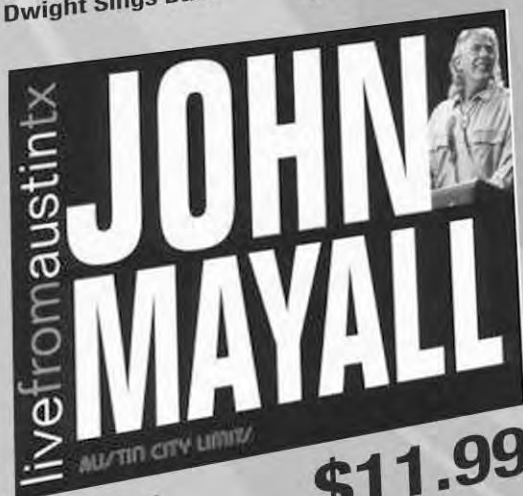
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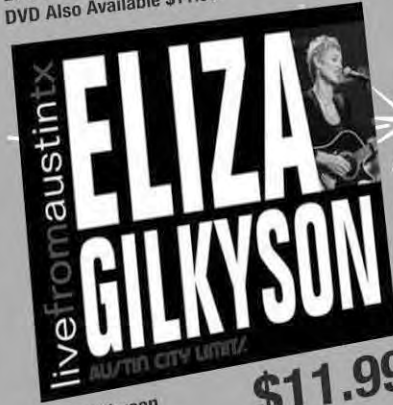
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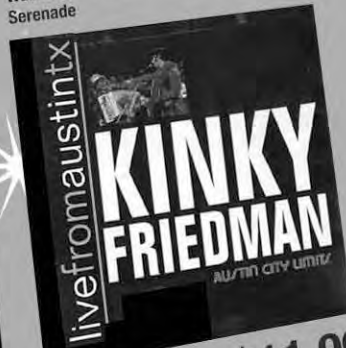
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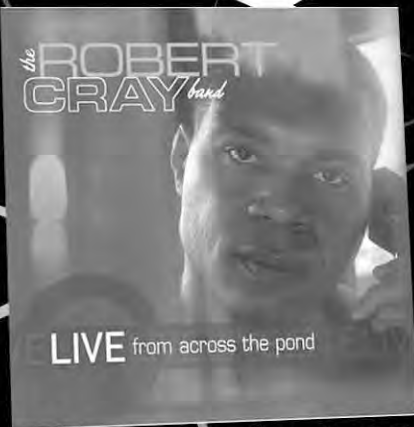
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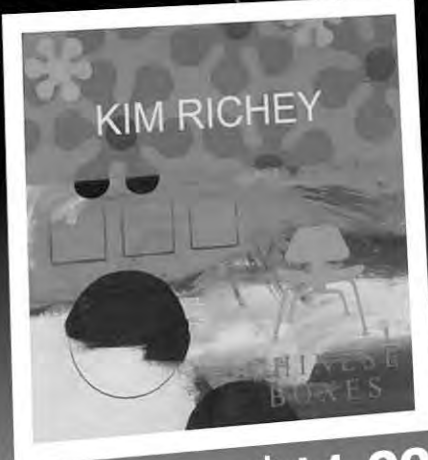
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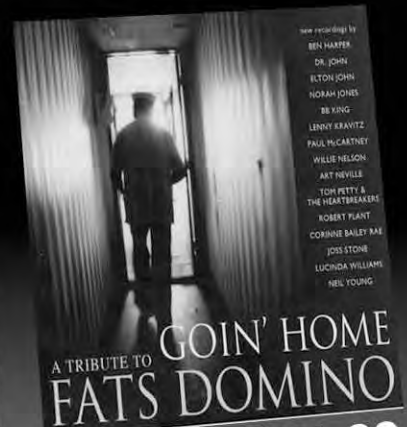
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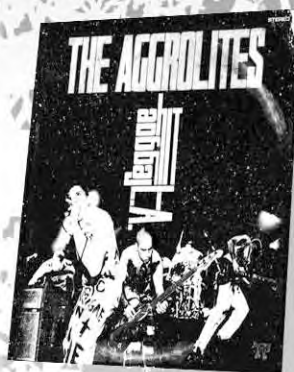


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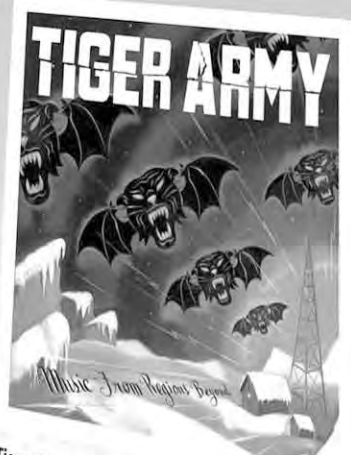
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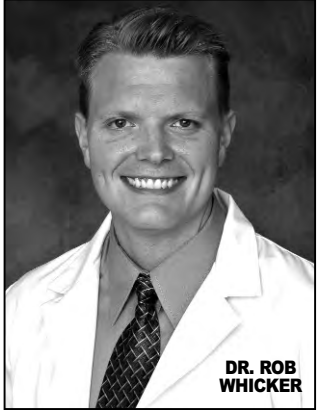
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viewpoint BY GEORGE WUERTHNER

The Climate Factor

Forest thinning won't deter the coming large fires



Whether thinning is an effective strategy to reduce wildfire has been the subject of some debate in *Eugene Weekly* (Viewpoints 11/08 and 11/29). Increasingly I'm convinced that thinning is ineffective under climatic conditions that are responsible for our largest fires such as the Biscuit Fire that burned across southwest Oregon in 2002.

Indeed, climatic conditions drive all big fires – not fuels. All substantial fires occur only if there is extended drought, low humidity, high temperatures and, most importantly, high winds. Wind, in particular, is critical. Wind increases fire spread exponentially.

When conditions are "ripe" for a large blaze, fires will burn through all kinds of fuel loads. By contrast if the forest is wet like Oregon's coastal forests, you can have all the fuel in the world, and it won't burn.

For this reason, most fires go out without burning more than a few acres. By contrast, when you have drought, low humidity, high temperatures and wind, a few blazes will grow into huge fires. For this reason, approximately 1 percent of all fires are responsible for about 95 to 99 percent of the acreage burned.

Even if thinning works to slow or reduce tree mortality under low and moderate fire conditions, what is becoming increasingly clear is that thinning doesn't stop the very largest blazes that occur under severe fire conditions. If you subtract out the acreage burned by these few large blazes, the total land area affected by all other wildfire that can be influenced by thinning is relatively small.

However, when severe fire conditions exist, nothing can stop a blaze. Under severe conditions, fires burn through all kinds of fuel loads including thinned/logged forests and even natural lightly stocked tree stands. For instance, under the severe conditions that dominated the Biscuit Fire, many of the low-density, widely spaced Jeffrey pine growing on serpentine burned up even though their natural stand density is much lower than what you are left with under even aggressive thinning.

There is growing evidence that thinning can actually acerbate fire spread and mortality – at least under severe fire conditions. Thinning increases solar radiation, leading to greater drying of fuels, and also contributes to greater moisture stress in trees. Thinning also allows wind to penetrate a forest stand with greater velocity, which in turn increases fire spread.

We may be trying to fix something that "ain't broken." Keep in mind that large stand-replacement fires have always occurred under the right conditions, long before we could have altered conditions by logging and fire suppression. The gigantic 1910 Burn raced across 3.5 million acres of Idaho and Montana and charred many acres of low elevation pine and dry Douglas fir forests. And while nearly nine million acres burned nationwide last year, this is dwarfed by the "Dust Bowl Years" of the 1930s when an average of 39 million acres burned annually. So the idea that we have some kind of crisis in our forests may be nothing more than a consequence of short-term memory loss and failure to comprehend how much climatic conditions affects flammability.

There is, however, no doubt that more acres are burning today than in the recent past. I'm inclined to think this is a consequence of global climate change rather than fuel build up. Global warming is lengthening the drying season – by several months – increasing summer temperatures which favors fire spread and may also be increasing average wind speed – another factor critical to large blazes. Therefore, even if thinning/logging were effective in the past – which as I suggest is questionable at least under severe fire conditions responsible for the majority of acres burned – they might not be now.

Given global warming, we are going to experience larger fires and more insect outbreaks as forests seek to balance themselves to changing climate. This is a sign of forest health, not of unhealthy forests as many assert. The fundamental ecological processes that control forest ecosystem are working.

This doesn't mean we have to let fires burn up people's homes. Reducing the flammability of the home – not thinning the forest – is the most sensible response. Installing metal roofs and removing flammable materials from the immediate area surrounding homes has been shown over and over again to be critical to home survivability in large blazes.

We are going to see more large fires in the future, and ultimately this will reset the forest fire regime to the new climatic conditions. Trying to restore some physical historic condition that may or may not have existed in the past makes no sense, especially when there are many negatives associated with logging. Rather we should rejoice that ecological processes like wildfire that shape our forests appear to be working – and working well.

George Wuerthner is an ecologist and editor of Wildfire: A Century of Failed Forest Policy.

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[†]Qwest received the highest numerical score among high-speed Internet service providers in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2007 Internet Service Provider Residential Customer Satisfaction Study.SM Study based on responses from a total of 10,787 consumers measuring 19 providers and measures opinions of residential consumers of high-speed Internet service providers nationwide. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed in July 2006. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com.

^{††}DIRECTV received the highest numerical score among cable or satellite providers in the Western U.S. in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2007 Residential Cable/Satellite TV Satisfaction Study.SM Study based on responses from a total of 17,033 consumers and measuring 8 providers in the West (AZ, CA, CO, IA, ID, MN, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, WY) and measures opinions of consumers who subscribed to a satellite or cable provider. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed in April 2007. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com.

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WILLIAM C. MIDDLETON

The city-owned Sears pit

BIG VOTE? NEVER MIND

Remember the big fight over the future of downtown Eugene culminating in a vote last month by 49,326 people? Well, none of that may have mattered.

Nothing may have been built anyway as the nationwide crash of the housing market dried up financing for development.

It's "extraordinarily difficult to get financed" now, said developer Tom Kemper. His KWG had proposed a \$200 million remake of downtown with parking garages, chain stores and condos. "Lenders are just not interested."

"The credit market has really crashed," said Pete Eggspuehler of Beam Development. "It's not a comment on the city of Eugene."

Beam had proposed a smaller historic remodel of the Centre Court, Aster pit and Washburn buildings with a mix of local tenants. That more locally focused, incremental approach drew support from most of the citizens who campaigned against the larger measure to subsidize KWG, and defeated the measure with a 64 percent vote.

Given the housing crunch, "I wonder where we would have been" if the \$40 million developer subsidy had passed, asked Councilor Bonny Bettman. "The voters were pretty wise. If the risk is too much for the developers, it's too much for the community."

Beam principal Brad Malsin said despite the credit crunch, he remained "very interested" in pursuing the smaller project. Beam said his project is a longer-term investment less subject to short-term market drops and is less focused on now risky condos. "We think we can make it work with a little cooperation" from the city, he said.

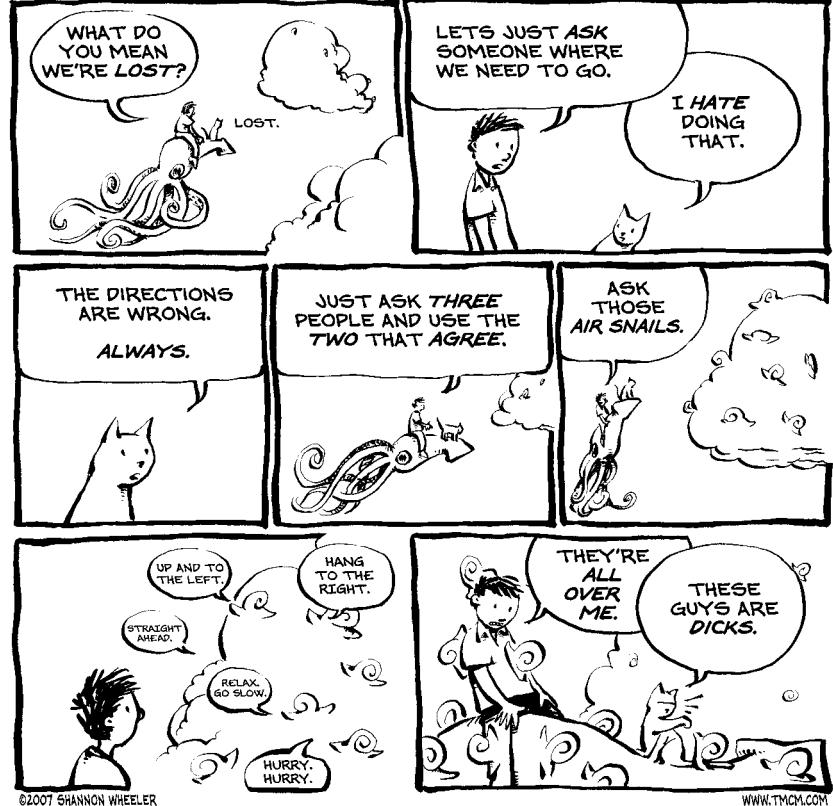
Kemper committed to redevelop the Sears pit with 106 condos and a retail shop a year before submitting the large \$200 million proposal. But he said he may now want to drop everything after the market fall.

"I'm far less enthusiastic about Sears than 15 months ago," Kemper said. "I certainly wouldn't do it under the timeline we were talking about."

Councilors Bettman and Taylor said that if Kemper was backing out of the previous agreement to break ground in 12 months, then the city may have to look for another developer rather than let Kemper sit on the pit indefinitely.

Councilor Taylor pointed out the city has owned the property for more than a dozen years without redeveloping it. "It's important that we act." — *Alan Pittman*

How to Be Happy (13 OF 8) by Shannon Wheeler



news Briefs

NEW CITY HALL? NEVER MIND

After spending more than \$2 million on consultants and more than two years of meeting time on a proposal for a new City Hall building, the City Council voted last week to put the city bureaucracy's top priority on the back burner.

In the wake of losing two ballot measures last month, the council voted 4-3 on Nov. 28 to delay a vote on a \$150 million new City Hall until at least 2010.

"Staff deserves City Hall, they really do," said Councilor Chris Pryor. But Pryor said the city shouldn't "send a message" that the city's internal priorities are more important than citizen priorities.

City executive Jim Carlson told councilors that instead of using its \$35 million facility reserve to reduce the tax increase for a new City Hall, the city could use the money to build a new police station. "You could use the resources you already have."

The city squirreled away the reserve money essentially by cutting services to taxpayers. By spending the diverted money on a new police building, the city would avoid a difficult vote. Bond measures for a new police station have already failed three times at the ballot box.

Pryor and other council conservatives claimed that road repair is a top voter priority and successfully pushed for a May 2008 vote on a property tax to fund it. But voters may not want to put their money in potholes. The gas tax on the Nov. 6 ballot failed with 56 percent voting no. — *Alan Pittman*

SENATE TO VOTE ON HOMEGROWN TERROR

Local activists fear that vague language in a bill recently passed by the U.S. House of Representatives will allow the government to prosecute "thought crimes." HR 1955, "the Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism Prevention Act of 2007" was passed on Oct. 23 with very little media attention. The bill has now moved to the Senate.

The bill states that "violent radicalization" is "the process of adopting or promoting an extremist belief system for the purpose of facilitating ideologically based violence to advance political, religious, or social change." However the bill does not define what an "extremist belief system" is, nor does it explain what it means to be

"facilitating" ideologically based violence.

The bill passed overwhelmingly in the House with a vote of 404-6, with 22 members not voting. Presidential hopeful Dennis Kucinich was among the few dissenters. Oregon's Rep. Peter DeFazio voted in favor of the bill as did Reps. Hooley, Wu, Walden and Blumenauer.

The Homegrown Terrorism Bill is actually an amendment to the 2002 Homeland Security Act. It defines homegrown terrorists as groups or individuals "born, raised or primarily operating" in the U.S. who use, plan or threaten to use force or violence against the government or civilians "in furtherance of political or social objectives." Such objectives could include anything from environmentalism to civil rights.



The legislation would establish a commission to report on homegrown terrorism as well as establish a university-based "Center of Excellence for the Study of Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism in the United States" that would use data from anthropologists and other social and behavioral scientists to study violent radicalization and homegrown terrorism.

The legislation specifically targets the Internet, stating it has "aided in facilitating violent radicalization, ideologically based violence, and the homegrown terrorism process" in the U.S. by allowing access to "broad and constant streams of terrorist-related propaganda."

Lauren Regan of Eugene's Civil Liberties Defense Center is calling for people to urge their senators to vote against the bill. For more information go to www.cldc.org or call 687-9180. — *Camilla Mortensen*



ROB HANDY IN THE RACE FOR COMMISH

Longtime Eugene neighborhood advocate and business owner Rob Handy is expected to announce his bid for the Lane County Board of Commissioners at noon Thursday, Dec. 6, upstairs in the County Courthouse.

He lives in District 4, which includes parts of west and north Eugene including River Road. He will likely face incumbent Commissioner Bobby Green, whose last serious challenger was Kitty Piercy. Green is considered vulnerable in 2008 due to his poor environmental voting record and his support last year for implementing a countywide income tax without first going to the voters. A recall campaign was launched against Green, but was dropped.

Handy says Lane County government "must prioritize budget decisions that put people first and build a sustainable economy that protects and enhances the resource lands that are the source of clean air, pure water and the soils that grow our food."

Handy owns and operates a landscaping contracting and consulting business and says he "understands the bottom line and the contributions of the many small and large businesses that are the backbone of our local economy — those who provide quality jobs without the benefit of government subsidies."

Handy has volunteered for decades throughout the community, mentoring at-risk teens, coaching youth sports teams and offering support to the elderly.

For five years he chaired the River Road Community Organization and served as co-chair of the Neighborhood Leaders Council. He has also served on the River Road/ Santa Clara Transition Project Task Force, the Raser Mixed-Use Center Citizens Advisory Committee and most recently on the West Broadway Advisory Committee.

Contributions can be mailed to: Elect Rob Handy County Commissioner, P.O. Box 41449, Eugene 97404.

BEEKEEPERS CALL ON CONGRESS

Beekeepers have been having a bad year, and some are hoping Congress will help them out. For the past year bee colonies have been



ABSCONDED ART PINS

The "greening" of the holidays is getting a new twist in the Eugene area this season with the sale of gift pins made from clippings from old art books and vintage magazines. The classic art is inscribed with peace messages and political statements.

The "Absconded Art Pins for Agitators & Peaceniks" sell for \$1, and all proceeds will go to the Civil Liberties Defense Center, Cascadia Wildlands Project and a variety of local peace groups.

Pins can be found at the ongoing "GREEN Holiday Scene" at 2510 Augusta St. in the Laurel Hill neighborhood every weekend through Dec. 23. More homes around town will also be selling the pins to friends and neighbors.

Organizer Carol Berg Caldwell, aka "Grindle GREENelf," says the slogan for the pin sale is "Corporate box stores will 'see red' when we all start shopping GREEN!" She adds that "Wal-Mart probably isn't losing sleep yet over this, but who knows where this could go? Maybe in 2008 homes all over America will be hosting GREEN Holiday Scenes."

Caldwell says the campaign has three "green" reasons: Recycling to create gifts avoids the traditional holiday "budget-buster" facing many families; dollars spent stay in the community; and the campaign is a way to avoid clogging the landfill with holiday packaging. "We promise not to wrap the treasures you will find at the GREEN Holiday Scene," she says.

For more information, call 337-3229.



• EW met with a large group of community leaders last week regarding Gustavo Arellano's "iAsk a Mexican!" column, and our staff reporter Camilla Mortensen writes about it in our news section this week. We all agree we want to dispel stereotypes and bigotry, but we disagree on whether Arellano's provocative style of satire helps or hurts the cause here in Lane County. The debate goes on in our Letters section this week, and we've invited the Latino community to contribute columns on the local, regional and national issues that are important to them.

This debate raises a basic issue in our community: How do we work effectively together to make life better for all of us — rich or poor, dark-skinned or light, advantaged or disadvantaged, educated or not, fluent in English or not, documented or undocumented, abled or disabled, gay or straight, young or old, male, female or transgendered? Even these labels promote divisions among us, and yet human nature is hard-wired to fear and mistrust people who are not of our family, not of our tribe, not of the "dominant culture." Is there no hope for us?

There is hope if we can rise above the stereotypes and ignorance of earlier generations — dispel the images and attitudes we learned mostly as children. There are multiple ways of doing that: serious community dialogue, diversity training in our institutions and businesses, legislation and legal action and even provocative satire that makes us cringe and laugh at ourselves.

We are a dynamic and evolving society. The culture of Mexico has permeated the U.S. so deeply that it's integral to who we are as a nation. Almost everyone speaks at least some Spanish, millions of non-Latinos have traveled south of the border, Mexican restaurants are everywhere, we sing "Feliz Navidad" at Christmas, and Spanish geographical names are ubiquitous (partially because a large section of this country used to belong to Mexico). Hispanic/Latino businesses and institutions are growing quickly nationwide. Brown is the new white when it comes to fashion models and style, and as a society we now find great beauty in the mix of skin colors and facial features.

American culture also includes African American, Asian and Native American experiences and influences, and we celebrate people like Tiger Woods and Barak Obama who symbolize a coming together of races where there was once insurmountable division.

Even though we want to be aware of (and report on) the challenges undocumented workers and others face during the political debates over immigration, we also want to encourage hope. We're making progress toward becoming world citizens who embrace our own cultural heritage while also understanding and appreciating other cultures, languages, values, appearances and ways of living and being on this planet.

• **It happens every few years downtown.** There's another measure on the ballot to open this street or that street or build a parking garage for a developer. And to pass the measure, proponents publicly blast downtown as blighted and crime-ridden. After more than a decade of this, no wonder downtown is suffering from an image problem. Ironically, there are far more assaults, car break-ins and other crimes at area shopping malls, but you won't see the shopping mall managers campaigning to advertise the fact.

• We hear **Kitty Piercy** might be running for a second term as mayor of Eugene. The rumor is still unconfirmed, but we suspect she's having a good time and wants to follow through on work she's been doing the past three years.

Piercy's also very upbeat about what's happening downtown and around town, and that was quite evident in her talk at the Citizens for Public Accountability annual meeting last week. She was enthusiastic about smaller, more incremental redevelopment downtown following the defeat of Measure 20-134 last month. She talked about creating new parks, connecting downtown with the UO, improving safety downtown, sprucing up stores and storefronts for the influx of visitors coming to the Olympic Trials next summer, addressing parking issues downtown, and doing more in the realm of sustainability. She even talked about an ordinance that would force owners of vacant storefronts downtown (read: Connor & Woolley) to maintain some degree of aesthetic appeal and upkeep.

She is not without her detractors, of course. Conservatives, assuming they field a candidate, will certainly attack her for her tie-breaking vote to shelve the West Eugene Parkway, for bagging the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast and other offenses. Progressives, assuming they field a candidate, will criticize her support for tax breaks for Hynix, siting a medical center on the northern outskirts, expansion of urban renewal to subsidize chain stores and other offenses. Piercy is viewed by some as too unwilling to challenge Eugene's entrenched and bloated city bureaucracy. Regardless, this popular mayor will be hard to unseat.

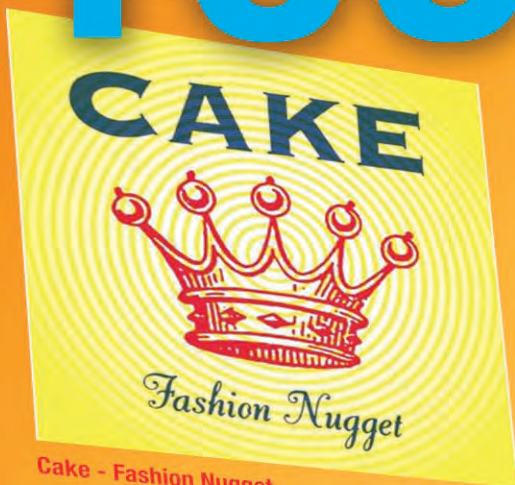
SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com



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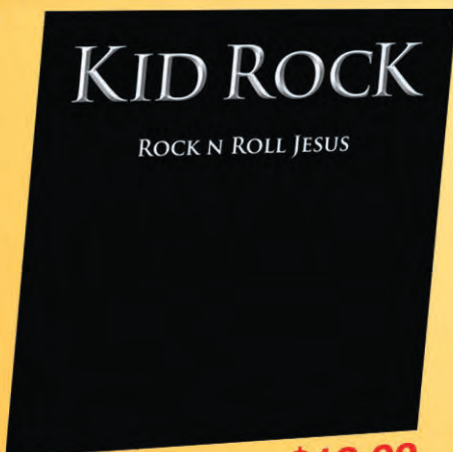
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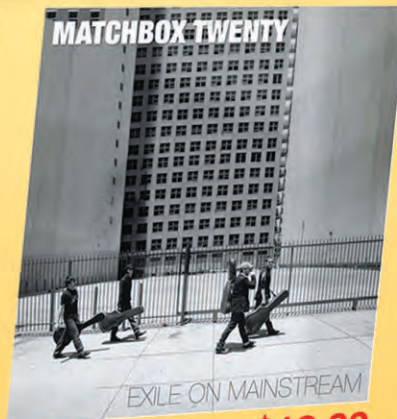
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WAR DEAD

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- **28,451 U.S. troops injured*** (28,451)
- **130 U.S. military suicides*** (130)
- **306 coalition troops killed**** (306)
- **933 contractors killed** (accurate updates NA)
- **84,779 to one million Iraqi civilians killed***** (84,250)
- **\$473.9 billion cost of war** (\$471.9 billion)
- **\$134.7 million cost to Eugene taxpayers** (\$134.2 million)

* through Nov. 12, 2007; source: icasualties.org; some figures only updated monthly

** estimate; source: icasualties.org

*** highest estimate; source: iraqbodycount.org; based on confirmed media reports; other groups calculate civilian deaths as high as 655,000 to one million



dying off and disappearing in a phenomenon called "colony collapse disorder."

Beekeepers have been reporting losses of 30 to 90 percent of their hives. In colony collapse disorder, seemingly healthy adult bees leave the hive, never to return. Bees are the number one pollinator of crops in the U.S., and their loss affects farmers from Oregon to Florida.

The USDA's Agricultural Research Service has been investigating the problem and pinpointing everything from parasites to poor nutrition. Scientists have also looked into radiation from cell phones and genetically modified crops.

The journal *Science* recently reported a link between colony collapse and a honeybee virus called Israeli acute paralysis virus, which is transmitted by a mite commonly found in beehives. Scientists speculate a mix of infection, genetics and environmental influences could be causing the die-offs.

According to a report in the *Capital Press*, an agricultural newspaper in Oregon, beekeepers are taking advantage of all the buzz about bees to ask for a little help. Beekeepers reported on an American Honeybee Producer Association survey that 15 percent of their bee losses are due to pesticides. They are pushing for an amendment to the 2007 U.S. Farm Bill that would require chemical companies to pay into a fund that would compen-

sate beekeepers for their pesticide-related losses. More than 250 amendments to the bill have already been proposed.

— Camilla Mortensen

COALITION TARGETS CLIMATE

A new coalition has recently formed among groups and individuals in Lane County "working to mitigate and prepare for challenges resulting from climate change and peak oil," according to Pam Driscoll of Dexter, one of the organizers.

Representatives from numerous groups in the area attended the first meeting in November. They included forest activists, since logging is a key component to increased CO2 in the atmosphere.

Topics being raised by the coalition include relocalization, preserving forests, mass transportation, food security, legisla-

tion and local business, says Driscoll.

A second meeting is scheduled for 6:30 pm Wednesday, Dec. 12, at the Grower's Market Building upstairs meeting room, 454 N. Willamette. For more information, call 937-3007.

LUERS TURNS 29 BEHIND BARS

Jeffrey "Free" Luers celebrated his 29th birthday at the Lane County Jail Dec. 5 as he



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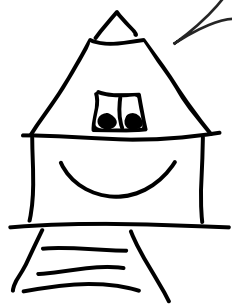
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news Briefs

awaits his resentencing hearing. He was convicted eight years ago in an arson that damaged three vehicles on a Eugene car lot. His 22-year sentence was recently overturned.

His address is now: Jeffrey Luers # 1306729, Lane County Adult Corrections, 101 West 5th Ave., Eugene 97401-2695.

A benefit music show for “Jeff and the Green Scare” is planned for 7 pm Thursday, Dec. 13 at Cozmic Pizza downtown. Music will be provided by the Riot Folk collective, Blair Street Mugwumps and The Spins. Jesus Sepulveda will read poetry, and Lauren Regan of the Civil Liberties Defense Center

will lead a discussion of the “Green Scare.” Suggestion donation is \$5-20 sliding scale, but no one will be turned away. All proceeds go to prisoner support.

For more information, visit freejefluers.org/donate.html

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our Nov. 21 cover story “Silence of the Limbs,” arborist Alby Thoumsin’s comment, “In an urban setting trees need to be removed because they represent a risk,” is in reference to hazardous urban trees.

Happening people BY PAUL NEEVEL

HOKOYO

Unfulfilled by a career on Wall Street, Gary Spalter traveled west in 1991, in search of “the opposite of New York City.” He found Eugene, saw the Oregon Country Fair and heard Kudana, a marimba band that plays the traditional Shona music that was imported to the Pacific Northwest in the 1970s and ‘80s by Zimbabwean ethnomusicologist Dumi Maraïre. A year later, Spalter was living in Eugene and learning to play marimba at the Kutsinhira Cultural Arts Center. Now a board member of Kutsinhira, he teaches at the center and directs the youth ensemble Hokoyo. Current members of Hokoyo (“watch out” in Shona) are Casey Barkan, Will Dickman, Grace Wittig, Michael Beardsworth, Jonah Sokoloff, Jory Christiansen, Mandy Walker-LaFollette, director Spalter and Jake Roberts. “We played our first gig at the HIV-AIDS Walkathon in 2000,” says Roberts, a 17-year-old who also teaches an intermediate class at the center. “We opened for Thomas Mapfumo at the WOW Hall.” For information on Hokoyo’s new CD, other Kutsinhira performing groups and class schedules, go to kutsinhira.org.



Lane Area Herbicide Spray Schedule

- Lane County Roadside Vegetation Management: Renewals of No Spray Area Permits are due on Jan. 31. For more information or to request a new No Spray Area Permit, call Caroline at Public Works, 682-6911.
- For more information on Lane County

Roadside Vegetation Management and Last Resort Herbicide Use Policy see lanecounty.org/Roads/Vegetation/Vegetation_Management.htm
Or call Orin Schumacher at 682-6908.

Compiled by Jan Wroncy, Forestland Dwellers:
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Family Values on the Border

"Angel" brings life to the desert and canyons

Dancing in the face of guns, delivering blankets and food and water to those in desperate need and fighting for human rights — that's how "border angel" Enrique Morones spends his time.

Morones, former president of San Diego's Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and former vice president of the San Diego Padres, founded an organization called Border Angels 21 years ago.

And on Thursday, Nov. 29, he told several hundred people in the UO's Knight Law School that his organization is needed now more than ever.

The UO's Multicultural Center sponsored the event, which began with Guadalupe Quinn, Lane County regional coordinator for immigrant rights group CAUSA, describing an Oregon issue: Gov. Ted Kulongoski's recent executive order concerning driver's licenses.

On Nov. 16, Kulongoski signed Executive Order #07-22. It requires driver's license applicants to provide a valid social security number, a valid foreign passport with unexpired documentation from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service or other USCIS documents. Quinn handed out a flyer asking the audience members to contact the governor opposing the executive order, which advocates say will add to the climate of fear for undocumented immigrants, who will now

not be able to get a driver's license — which means, among other consequences, that they cannot buy car insurance. (For more information on the executive order, visit www.causaoregon.org)

UO assistant professor Edward Olivos introduced Morones, saying that since the North American Free Trade Agreement went into effect in 1994, many Latinos have come to the U.S. to escape poverty and that NAFTA is "causing a demographic shift in the U.S."

Morones continued Olivos' theme, giving vivid examples of his reasons for founding Border Angels. Border Angels, a nonprofit group, consists of hundreds of volunteers who deliver water, food and clothing to various drop sites in the canyons near San Diego where many migrant workers live and to the desert where many immigrants cross the border illegally. Since California built a wall across the border, Morones said, between 4,500 and 10,000 immigrants have died in less hospitable desert crossings.

Morones explained that the U.S. has less than 5 percent of the world's population of "illegal immigrants," who number 250 million total (with around 12 million in the U.S.). He also said that when those opposed to the undocumented workers say immigrants should "follow rules and get in line" for a visa, "there is no line for poor people."

Morones, a Catholic, began Border Angels

because of his faith, following Matthew 25:35, in which Jesus says (according to the parable of the sheep and the goats), "When I was hungry, who gave me to eat? When I was thirsty, who gave me to drink?"

"It's family values, that's how I got started," he said. And with the encouragement of Ethel Kennedy, he became much more vocal about the issue of immigrant rights. Border Angels helped undocumented workers and families living in canyons affected by the wildfires near San Diego a month ago. Morones recalled going out to fields and asking the farm managers to let their workers leave the area during the fire. "But they didn't want to stop working," he said, and so Border Angels, among other organizations, tried to keep migrant workers safe. Ultimately, he said, of the 11 people who died in the fire, 8 were undocumented immigrants.

In 2006, just after the December 2005 passage in the U.S. House of the anti-immigrant Sensenbrenner bill, Border Angels and Morones' other organization, Gente Unida, organized "Marcha Migrante" from Sacramento to Washington, D.C., to protest. In February of 2007, Marcha Migrante II went from San Diego to Brownsville, Texas, and in Feb. 2008, Marcha Migrante III will come up the West Coast, he said, "for the forgotten migrants of Washington and Oregon."

In between tales of resisting the anti-immi-



'These are the stories of real people; real people are dying.'

—ENRIQUE MORONES

grant Minutemen, once with boom boxes and a party atmosphere, Morones talked about giving water, food and medical care to two men whose young sons later called him to give him thanks. He also told of a woman crossing with her 15-year-old son, Jesús, and her 7-year-old daughter. "She literally died in the arms of Jesus," he said, after a smuggler abandoned the family in the desert.

"These are the stories of real people," he said. "Real people are dying." And Border Angels is trying to stop the deaths. To contribute money or for more information, go to www.borderangels.org or call (619) 269-7865. **ew**

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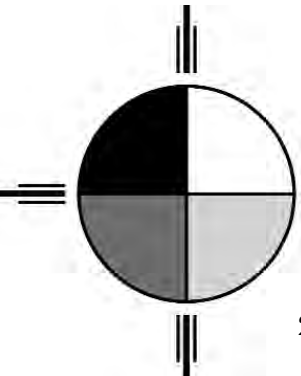
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news BY TED TAYLOR

Backseat Driver

Performance auditor describes his profession

Portland's elected City Auditor Gary Blackmer visited Eugene for the third time last week and outlined why the city of Eugene should have an independent auditor, what kind of auditor it could be and the pitfalls to avoid.

Blackmer spoke at the Citizens for Public Accountability annual meeting Nov. 29 along with Mayor Kitty Piercy. A 3,500-word transcript of Blackmer's talk is available at www.eugeneweekly.com

"I describe an auditor as a backseat driver," he said. "The city council has the steering wheel and pushes the pedals and

• Competence is the third key element, he said, stressing education, experience and ongoing training. "My city charter also says that the elected auditor must either be a certified internal auditor, a certified public accountant or a certified management accountant. That takes the elected auditor out of the political track."

Holding an auditor to such high standards would make it difficult for Eugene to have an elected auditor, Blackmer said. The candidate pool of Eugene residents would be very



'Watch out for the pedestrian.'

— GARY BLACKMER

decides where that vehicle is going, and my job is to sit in the back seat and say, 'You know, if you turned right here, you'd get there a little quicker.' Or, 'Watch out for the pedestrian.'"

Blackmer said he never questions the policies set by the Portland City Council. "They are elected to balance the values, needs, priorities and resources of the community, to best serve the community," he said. "My job is to make sure that once council decides where it wants to go, we get there in the best way possible, that we wisely spend the resources we have to get as far as we can."

So what does a performance auditor do? "We go into an organization and analyze it, and look at what problems a department has, or might have, and figure out if we have a strategy for making it better," he said. "What we are trying to do is help government better achieve its goals and objectives. ... Every audit is a custom-built document that looks at how the organization works and how it doesn't work as well as it could and applies the tools that we bring. We do a lot of interviewing in the process, survey work as a regular course. We do focus groups, a variety of things, whatever it takes to raise the performance of that organization."

Blackmer said the audits he and his staff perform go way beyond financial accounting, and his staff includes people with degrees in sociology, environmental science, business administration, budgeting and computer science.

He outlined several keys to effective auditing:

• "Credibility is critical," he said, "and the key that we use in my office is the government audit standards that we follow. These are the standards that the U.S. Government Accountability Office developed and follows. ... They are a minimum standard that we all have to meet to ensure that what we are doing is quality work."

• Independence is another key. "Say I was working for the treasurer as an auditor," he said. "I wouldn't want to tell my boss that he was doing a bad job of supervising, and the credibility of my work would be at question."

small. If Eugene's auditor were to be appointed by the City Council, a national search could be held, such as the one currently under way for a new city manager.

"In just talking to you this evening and getting a sense of what Eugene is about, probably the appointed [auditor] is a good way to start," he said. "Because elected means you really have to change your city charter. You have to get it right the first time, and it's a little more difficult to make that leap."

• Quality control is the fourth key, he said. "We go through a very thorough process of checking, double-checking and triple-checking our work before we issue an audit report."

Blackmer said he actually works *with* the department heads he is auditing, providing confidential drafts along the way and checking facts. "It's a way for us to make sure we haven't come up with bad or impractical recommendations, but if we do have something wrong, we can get it fixed before we issue the final report. Now if they say we got it wrong, we need evidence."

Every conclusion or idea expressed in a Blackmer audit report is tied back to a work paper that explains how it was made. The principle, he said, is for department heads to be involved and take ownership in the audit, leading to a higher level of implementation of recommendations.

"We go through a process to make sure we are never wrong," he said, drawing laughter from the audience. "Occasionally we make little mistakes, but everybody makes mistakes, and we recognize that also in the people we are auditing."

Blackmer said the Association of Local Government Auditors has model legislation that cities can use. "It has language that works in city code or city charter that describes what an auditor should have in terms of independence and powers." He said a performance auditor can also be established incrementally. "You can create it with a city council vote," he said, "and then later on put it into the charter."

More information is available at GovernmentAuditors.org and theiaa.com **EW**

Painful Humor

EW asked to stop running '¡Ask a Mexican!'

Shortly after *Eugene Weekly* began running the satirical advice column, "¡Ask a Mexican!" in the Nov. 8 issue, letters to the editor began pouring in, nearly all demanding that *EW* stop printing the weekly syndicated column. Letters this week are more varied.

Is Eugene ready for this ethnic and political satire? Local Latino leaders fear Eugeneans lack the context to learn from the humor, especially as the immigration debate heats up. For instance, Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski recently signed an order that makes it dramatically more difficult for illegal immigrants to get a driver's license (for more, see page 19).

"¡Ask a Mexican!" is written by Orange County, Calif.-based Gustavo Arellano and syndicated across the country from California to New York and many places in between, like Tulsa, Okla., by Village Voice Media (see cover story last week). The column has won national awards and Arellano has been featured by NPR, *The Today Show*, *Utne*, *Nightline* and *The Colbert Report*. The column has also inspired knock-offs from the online blog "Ask a Korean!" (askakorean.blogspot.com) to *Anchorage Press*' controversial and failed attempt to create "Ask an Eskimo!"

On Nov. 28, *EW* Editor Ted Taylor and paper co-owner and board member Anita

Johnson met with approximately 18 concerned community leaders, including City Councilors Andrea Ortiz and Mike Clark, UO Vice Provost Charles Martinez (who is also chair of the 4J School Board) and heads of local social service agencies, many of which focus on Eugene's Latino community.

The goal of the meeting, said Centro Latino Americano (CLA) Executive Director Jorge Navarro, who hosted the gathering, was "about creating dialogue."

Among the concerns that were discussed at the meeting was the issue of context, as well as concerns about the often-ribald language Arellano employs. In past columns Arellano has used Spanish slang like *puta*, which Carmen Urbina, a long-time Latina advocate in Eugene, called, "worse than a whore."

Urbina also pointed to Arellano's use of the phrase "*un nopal en la frente*," which roughly translates to "a cactus growing from the forehead." This phrase is used by U.S. Mexicans to describe other Mexicans "fresh from the border," according to Arellano.

"Reading this column, seeing those words, do you know what this means?" asked Urbina. "It hits to the core of demeaning stereotypes," she said.

"This is giving this community permission to use this language in the context of snark and comedy," Urbina said. "Our chil-

dren can't deal with this. I have to explain hate," she said.

Urbina works with Mujeres Latinas, a group of 135 Latina women, some of whom she says were driven to tears when shown the column.

"This column doesn't have a place in this community," said Guadalupe Quinn, CAUSA Lane County regional coordinator.

"We don't have the luxury that California does — they have the previous knowledge of the language and the culture," said Juan Carlos Valle, one of CLA's board members.

protesting outside Mexican restaurants owned by Mexicans who use similar caricatures?"

"There is no balance" to running the column, commented Ortiz, who cited concerns that *EW* and other media do not feature enough reporting on Latino issues. Some community members also asked about the lack of local Latino voices in the paper. Taylor and Johnson extended an invitation to the Latino community to write regular columns for *EW*.

Taylor reminded the gathering of *EW*'s

'This column doesn't have a place in this community.'

—Guadalupe Quinn, CAUSA Lane County Regional Coordinator

"Keep in mind, we're in Oregon," he added.

Johnson, who is also a contributing editor to *EW*, said the paper's editorial board decided to run the column because they saw it "as a way of combating racism and stereotyping." Arellano himself has stated in numerous interviews that the goal of the column, including the caricature of a gold-toothed sombrero-wearing Mexican with a mustache, "is to debunk the stereotypes that people do have about Mexicans, to aggressively go after racists" (*EW* 11/29).

Arellano, in response to criticisms of the caricature, asked: "Are these same activists

subsidizing the printing and inserting of the Spanish-language paper *El Norte* in *EW* for about nine months in 2005. *EW* was unable to continue *El Norte* due to a lack of advertising support. Only one letter to the editor supported the effort, and none noted the cessation of *El Norte* in *EW*, Taylor said.

Toward the end of the more than one-hour meeting, several members of the group demanded an immediate decision on whether or not to stop publishing "¡Ask a Mexican!" Johnson said she alone could not make that decision and promised to report to the board about the meeting.

EW



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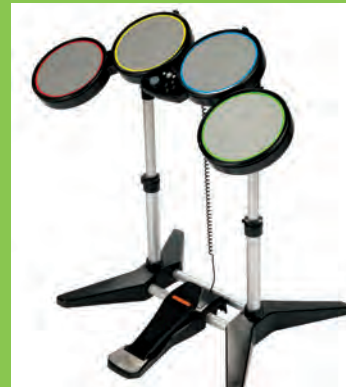


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By Bill McKibben

The Kyoto Accord began the race to halt global warming. On its 10th anniversary, why are we barely past the starting gate?

I remember so well the final morning hours of the Kyoto conference. The negotiations had gone on long past their scheduled evening close, and the convention-center management was frantic — a trade show for children's clothing was about to begin, and every corner of the vast hall still was littered with the carcasses of the sleeping diplomats who had gathered in Japan to draw up a first-ever global treaty to curb greenhouse-gas emissions. But when word finally came that an agreement had been reached, people roused themselves with real enthusiasm — lots of backslapping and hugs.

A long decade after the first powerful warnings had sounded, it seemed that humans were finally rising to the greatest challenge we'd ever faced.

The only long face in the hall belonged to William O'Keefe, chairman of the Global Climate Coalition, otherwise known as the American coal, oil and car lobby. He'd spent the week coordinating the resistance — working with Arab delegates and Russian industrialists to sabotage the emerging plan. And he'd failed. "It's in free fall now," he said, stricken. But then he straightened his shoulders and said, "I can't wait to get back to Washington where we can get things under control."

I thought he was whistling past the graveyard. In fact, he knew far better than the rest of us what the future would hold. He knew it would be at least another decade before anything changed.

Ten Years Warmer

The important physical-world reality to know about the 10 years after Kyoto is that they included the warmest years on record. All of the warmest years on record.

The political-world reality 10 years after Kyoto is that we haven't done anything. Oh, we've passed all kinds of interesting state and local laws. ... But in Washington, D.C., nothing. No laws at all.

In that span of time, we've come to understand that not only is the globe warming, but also that we'd dramatically underestimated the speed and the size of that warming. By now, the data from the planet outstrips the scientific prediction on an almost daily basis. Earlier this fall, for instance, the melt of Arctic sea ice beat the old record. Beat it in mid-August, and then the ice kept melting for six more weeks, losing an area the size of California every week. "Arctic Melt Unnerves the Experts," the headline in *The New York Times* reported. And they were shaken by rapid changes in tundra-permafrost systems, not to mention rain-forest systems, temperate-soil carbon-sequestration systems, oceanic-acidity systems.

We've gone from a problem for our children to a problem for right about now, as evidenced by, oh, Hurricane Katrina, California wildfires, epic droughts in the Southeast and Southwest. And that's just the continental U.S. Go to Australia sometime: It's gotten so dry there that native Aussie Rupert Murdoch recently announced that his News Corp. empire was going carbon neutral.

The important political-world reality to know about the 10 years after Kyoto is that we haven't done anything.

Oh, we've passed all kinds of interesting state and local laws, wonderful experiments that have begun to show just how much progress is possible. But in Washington, D.C., nothing. No laws at all.

Until last year, when the GOP surrendered control of Congress, even the hearings were a joke, with "witnesses" like novelist Michael Crichton.

And as a result, our emissions have continued to increase. Worse, we've made not the slightest attempt to shift China and India away from using their coal. Instead of an all-out effort to provide the resources so they could go renewable, we've stood quietly by and watched from the sidelines as their energy trajectories shot out of control: The Chinese now are opening a new coal-fired plant every week. History will regard even the horror in Iraq as one more predictable folly next to this novel burst of irresponsibility.

A Hint of a Movement

If you're looking for good news, there is some.

For one thing, we understand the technologies and the changes in habit that can help. The last 10 years have seen the advent of hybrid cars and the widespread use of compact fluorescent light bulbs. Wind power has been the fastest-growing source of electric generation throughout the period. Japan and then Germany have pioneered with great success the subsidy scheme required to put millions of solar panels up on rooftops.

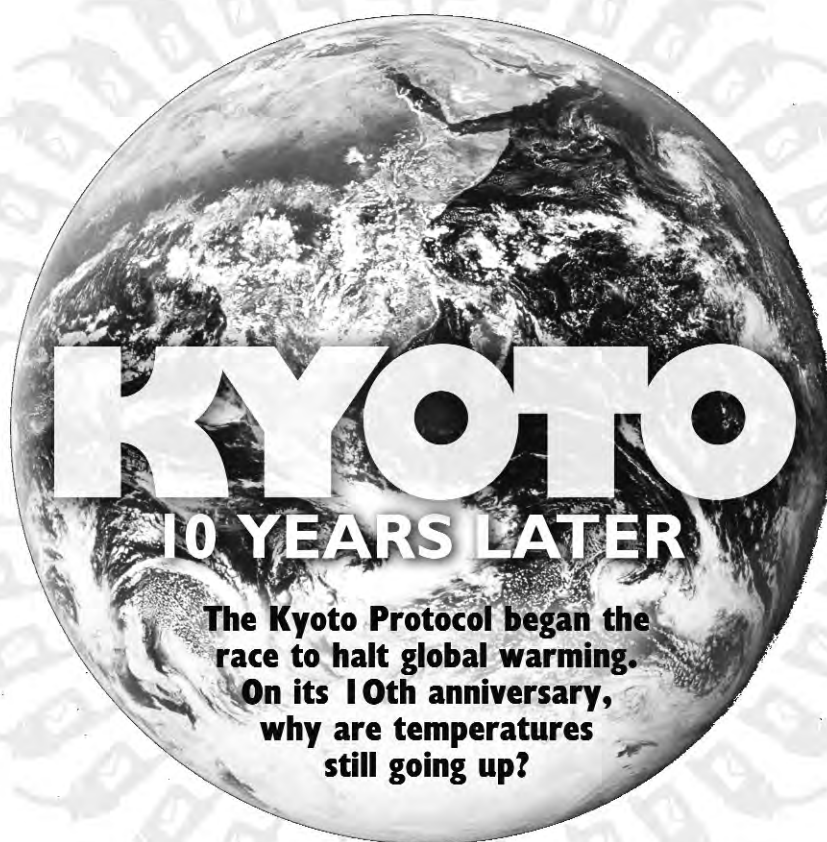
Even more important, a real movement has begun to emerge in this country. It began with Katrina, which opened eyes. Al Gore gave those eyes something to look at: His movie made millions realize just what a pickle we were in. Many of those, in turn, became political activists. Earlier this year, six college students and I launched stepitup07.org, which has organized almost 2,000 demonstrations in all 50 states. Last month, the student climate movement drew 7,000 hardworking kids from campuses all over the country for a huge conference. We've launched a new grassroots coalition, lsky.org, that will push both Congress and the big Washington environmental groups.

All this work has tilted public opinion — new polls actually show energy and climate change showing up high on the list of issues that voters care about, which in turn has made the candidates take notice. All the Democrats are saying more or less the right things, though none of them, save John Edwards, is saying them with much volume.

The Race of All Time

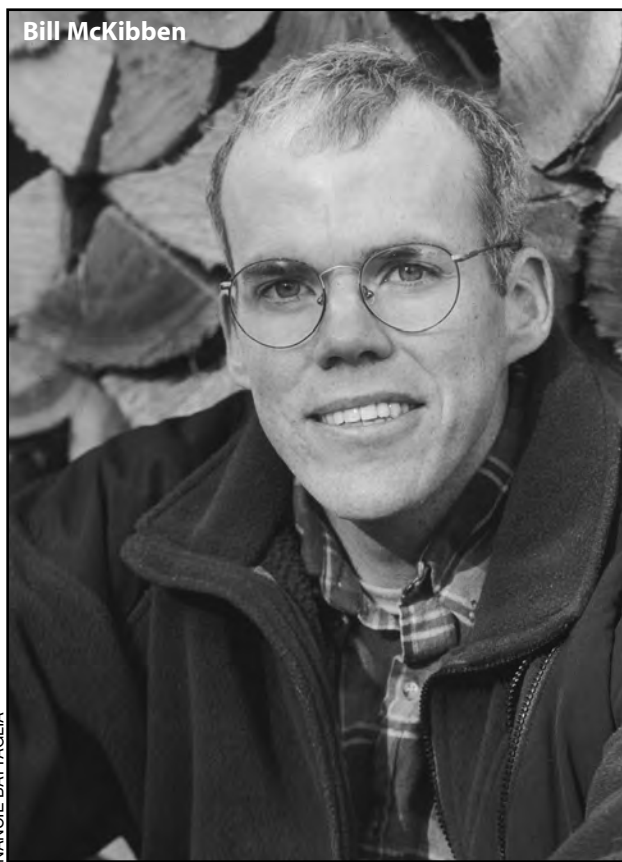
Now it's a numbers game. Can we turn that political energy into change fast enough to matter?

On the domestic front, the numbers look like this: We've got to commit to reductions in carbon emissions of 80 percent by 2050, and we've got to get those



Bill McKibben

NANCIE BATTAGLIA



Negotiations begin this month in Bali to strike a new [global-warming] deal, and it's likely to be the last bite at the apple we'll get — miss this chance and the climate likely spirals out of control.

cuts under way fast — 10 percent in just the next few years. Markets will help — if we send them the information that carbon carries a cost. Only government can do that.

Two more numbers we're pushing for: zero, which is how many new coal-fired power plants we can afford to open in America, and five million, which is how many green jobs Congress needs to provide for the country's low-skilled workers. All that insulation isn't going to stuff itself inside our walls, and those solar panels won't crawl up on the roofs by themselves. You can't send the work to China, and you can't do it with a mouse. This is the last big chance to build an economy that works for most of us.

Internationally, the task is even steeper. The Kyoto Accord, which we ignored, expires in a couple of years. Negotiations begin this month in Bali to strike a new deal, and it's likely to be the last bite at the apple we'll get — miss this chance and the climate likely spirals out of control. We have a number here, too: 450, as in parts-per-million carbon dioxide. It's the absolute upper limit on what we can pour into the atmosphere, and it will take a heroic effort to keep from exceeding it. This is a big change — even 10 years ago, we thought the safe level might be 550. But the data is so clear: The Earth is far more finely balanced than we thought, and our peril much greater. Our foremost climate scientist, NASA's James Hansen, testified under oath in a courtroom last year that if we didn't stop short of that 450 red line, we could see the sea level rise 20 feet before the century was out. That's civilization-challenging. That's a carbon summer to match any nuclear winter that anyone ever dreamed about.

It's a test, a kind of final exam for our political, economic and spiritual systems. And it's a fair test, nothing vague or fuzzy about it. Chemistry and physics don't bargain. They don't compromise. They don't meet us halfway. We'll do it or we won't. And 10 years from now, we'll know which path we chose.

Bill McKibben, a scholar in residence at Middlebury College, is an author and environmentalist who frequently writes about global warming. McKibben's essay was commissioned by the Association of Alternative Newsweeklies. Approximately 30 AAN member papers are publishing the essay this week.

KYOTO ACCORDINGLY

Environmentalists weigh in on the Kyoto Protocol

By Sena Christian, SN&R

Ross Gelbspan

Author, *The Heat is On* and *Boiling Point*, www.heatisonline.org

What is needed is a new Kyoto Protocol that reflects the urgency and magnitude of the challenge: a rapid global transition to non-carbon energy sources in the next 30 years. One approach might involve three elements: In industrial countries, withdraw the roughly \$250 billion a year in subsidies for coal and oil and put those same subsidies behind clean-energy sources. Create a fund, estimated at about \$300 billion a year, to transfer clean energy to developing countries. All developing countries would love to go solar, but most can't afford it. The fund could be financed by a tax on international air travel, carbon taxes in the north or a tiny tax of a quarter-penny per dollar on international currency transactions. Develop a regulatory mechanism that would require every country, starting at its current baseline, to increase its fossil-fuel efficiency by 5 percent per year. That means every country would produce the same amount next year with 5 percent less carbon fuel or produce 5 percent more with the same amount of carbon fuel. Since few economies grow at 5 percent for very long, emissions reductions would outpace long-term economic growth (for details, see "Solutions" at www.heatisonline.org.)

To incorporate these mechanisms would generate millions of new jobs, especially in developing countries. It would begin to turn impoverished nations into trading partners. It would jump start the renewable-energy industry into being a central driving engine of growth for the global economy.

Ted Nordhaus & Michael Shellenberger

Co-authors, *Break Through: From The Death of Environmentalism to the Politics of Possibility*

Kyoto failed for reasons having nothing to do with the absence of U.S. involvement. The developed nations that ratified the agreement saw their emissions go up, not down, by 4 percent between 2000 and 2004. Even if Kyoto was perfectly implemented, the emissions reduced would be one-seventh the amount of the emissions China alone will produce over the next three decades.

Kyoto was based on the wrong models of past efforts to regulate pollution. A better model is the creation of the European Union after World War II through shared investments in coal and steel. A post-Kyoto effort should bring down the price of clean energy as quickly as possible through massive public-private investments into technology innovation and infrastructure. Together the U.S., Europe and Japan should invest \$100-200 billion per year, which could stimulate \$60-120 billion in private capital. This commitment would bring down the price of clean energy while strengthening economic ties between these countries. To achieve this politically, the next president must sell the agenda as the only way to free ourselves from oil while establishing American leadership and creating jobs in the fast-growing and high-tech clean-energy markets.

Sarah Susanka

Architect and author, *The Not So Big House* series and *The Not So Big Life*, www.notsobig.com

As someone who has done a significant amount of inner work, as well as work in the world of architecture and design, I'm very much aware that things are not what they appear to be. We see the world as something outside ourselves that needs to be fixed. Yet when we listen to the words of mystics and sages of all ages, and when we study the findings of today's scientists, we come to understand that there is in fact no separation between our individual human bodies and the world. We are all interconnected and part of one extraordinary movement of consciousness. What's more, the part and the whole mirror one another. So to change the world, we must truly do what Mahatma Gandhi said: "We must be the change we wish to see in the world."

As long as we focus on a world separate from ourselves and try to fix it without attending to our own individual imbalance, planetary balance will continue to elude us. So, although I believe that Kyoto signifies a very important recognition of the role we play collectively, we have yet to see that it is our individual role in becoming ever more present and aware in our own lives. That holds the key to the shift we are seeking.

Aaron Lehmer

Program manager, green-collar jobs campaign, Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, www.ellabakercenter.org

Since the Kyoto Protocol was first introduced in 1997,

consciousness has exploded around the urgent need to tackle the global climate crisis. At the Ella Baker Center, we've forged partnerships with groups serving low-income communities and green businesses that are moving away from the pollution-based economy of the past and toward a clean-energy economy. In collaboration with the city of Oakland and the Apollo Alliance, we initiated the Oakland Green Jobs Corps to train low-income residents to weatherize our buildings, switch out inefficient technologies and install the solar panels and wind farms that we'll need to power our future.

We can and must fight both poverty and pollution at the same time by preparing those who have been left out of previous economic booms for promising careers in the emerging green economy. The task at hand is enormous and urgent: The twin threats of climate change and oil dependence demand that we must take bold action now to move our communities away from fossil fuels and toward renewable energy solutions.

We know that this will require millions of people rolling up their sleeves to literally transform the way we work, live and play. This means that billions of dollars of new investment in our cities will be needed. This is a historic opportunity to both protect our climate and also uplift our communities, providing dignified, green opportunities for all.

Jeff McIntire-Strasburg

Senior editor, www.GreenOptions.com; founder, www.Sustainablog.org

It's tempting to focus on the fact that the U.S. government still hasn't signed on to the Kyoto Protocols, and thus conclude that we haven't made much progress. Despite the federal government's very slow movement on the issue, though, I think we've come quite far. Ten years ago, few would have imagined that a Republican governor would sign off on the first greenhouse-gas emissions reduction program for his state, or that companies like Wal-Mart, Duke Energy and General Electric would be lobbying Congress for regulation of carbon emissions.

We've got much farther to go, but I'm optimistic that the United States will fully join the international effort to combat global climate change. The general public, the business community and state and local governments "get it." It's hard to imagine that the next U.S. president and Congress will be able to not act decisively without paying a heavy political price.

Brian Nowicki

California climate policy director, Center for Biological Diversity, www.biologicaldiversity.org

When the Kyoto Protocol was initiated 10 years ago, there was good reason to be seriously concerned about the impacts of climate change on the world's ecosystems. Since then, science has provided increasingly specific and disturbing projections, and we have started seeing the impacts to the world's wildlife and habitats. The decline in the Arctic sea ice is directly impairing the ability of polar bears to hunt. Pikas adapted to high mountain weather are losing lower elevation populations. Checkerspot butterflies along the U.S. Pacific Coast are losing southern populations. A wide array of plants and animals are facing the stresses that come from earlier springs, more hot days and seasonal droughts. In the past 10 years, it has become increasingly clear that global climate change not only threatens a wide array of plants and wildlife, but also threatens the integrity of entire ecosystems. If the world's biological diversity is to survive the next 100 years, we not only need to make every effort to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, we also need to take serious measures to protect species and ecosystems from the continued warming we have already committed to.

Faiz Shakir

Research director, Center for American Progress, www.americanprogress.org

In the years since Kyoto, the public cries for taking action to regulate carbon-dioxide emissions are now deafening. To respond to the climate crisis and transform our energy economy, we need presidential leadership to curb this nation's oil usage, cap and cut carbon-dioxide emissions, and increase investment in renewable energy. While the Bush administration dithers and delays, leadership in addressing this looming disaster has emerged from two dozen U.S. states and the European Union.



The new I-5 Beltline freeway interchange costing more than \$115 million was never voted on by the Eugene City Council or public and will increase global warming pollution

More Freeways

Our local response to global warming

By Alan Pittman

Two years ago, Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy traveled to Salt Lake City to talk about climate change.

With polar bears in danger of drowning and threats of floods and droughts from global warming brought on by pollution and the Bush administration failing to act, Piercy and 45 other U.S. mayors signed on to the Kyoto Protocol's call to reduce greenhouse gasses to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012.

"The federal government is not taking the initiative that it needs to on this issue, and time is running out," Piercy told *EW* in 2005. "This is a great opportunity for Eugene to make a difference in the ways that we can."

But last month Piercy cast the deciding vote for a massive regional freeway plan that takes a big step back from efforts to reduce driving and will dramatically increase global warming pollution locally.

The Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) voted Nov. 8 to approve a half-billion-dollar Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) focused largely on building more and more freeways to promote urban sprawl with more and more traffic belching out carbon dioxide, the leading cause of global warming.

"This RTP goes in exactly the opposite direction of where we need to go," said Friends of Eugene President Kevin Matthews.

Under the RTP, per capita driving will increase 13 percent by 2031. The plan includes: \$90 million for two new freeway interchanges for Highway 126 to serve sprawl in east Springfield; a \$10 million new freeway to serve proposed growth boundary sprawl in far southeastern Springfield; \$115 million for freeway interchange work to serve sprawl in the Gateway Mall/Riverbend area; a new \$22 million freeway interchange for Coburg; and more than \$60 million to increase freeway capacity on Beltline Highway on the edge of Eugene.

"We face a world of reduced funding, finite resources and climate change, and our regional planning must reflect these new realities," Piercy said in a press release after the vote. But Piercy said that the city can address these new realities later as it updates TransPlan, the region's long-range transportation land use planning document.

The last time TransPlan was updated, it took a decade. Piercy did not respond to requests for an interview. Instead, the mayor sent an email stating that she was "strongly in favor of aligning RTP and TransPlan as soon as possible" and wanted reduced carbon emissions and more public involvement in MPC. Piercy's votes have increasingly disappointed local environmentalists. Last week she broke a tie vote against prioritizing new regulations to protect water quality.

Zako said Piercy's vote "surprised" environmentalists who thought she would vote against the freeways.

With the MPC vote, Piercy could have cast the deciding vote to change or defeat the freeway plan. The body requires at least one vote from Eugene to pass a measure. Eugene Councilor Alan Zelenka, the other Eugene member of the MPC, voted against the freeway plan as did County Commissioner Peter Sorenson.

Sorenson said he objects that the little-known MPC makes such "powerful" decisions involving hundreds of millions of dollars of taxpayer money with so little public involvement. "It's quite exclusive," Sorenson said of the meeting in the Wells Fargo bank building downtown. "That's the whole point; it's outside of public view."

Councilor Zelenka said his vote also reflected concerns about inadequate public involvement.

Staff at the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), an obscure government agency not directly accountable to voters and that largely operates beyond public scrutiny, wrote the freeway plans, which were approved by the MPC without amendment.

Rob Zako, a transportation advocate with 1000 Friends of Oregon, said LCOG's MPC has seized tremendous power over local land use planning, contrary to state law.

Transportation decisions "drive land use decisions," Zako wrote to LCOG. State regulations require adequate transportation before big new developments can be approved. "Thus, the new PeaceHealth hospital in Springfield was contingent on the Interstate-5/Beltline project; the McKenzie-Willamette hospital in Eugene is contingent on improvements at Beltline and Delta Highway," Zako wrote. LCOG/MPC "has the authority to decide which transportation projects are 'reasonably likely' to be built, hence where new developments can be approved contingent on those projects."

Zako said the freeway plans do not follow locally adopted land use plans for where and how to grow and were never vetted with public hearings before city councils. Instead of determining urban growth plans with freeway plans, LCOG/MPC should be following them, Zako wrote.

State land use regulators also expressed dissatisfaction with the plan. A letter from Robert Cortright of the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development notes that the RTP reverses the previous TransPlan's calls for reducing dependence on driving. Noting that the plan adds more freeway interchanges while falling 50 percent short of previous targets for public transit, DLCD wrote: "In rough terms, the 2031 RTP estimates the region will make half the progress in twice the time."

LCOG staff dismissed Zako and DLCD's comments and denied that they were engaged in land use planning. But the plan does acknowledge that "reliance on more and bigger roadways to meet the transportation demand is shortsighted. ... Experience from cities all over the world suggests that building roads encourages more people to use cars, thereby perpetuating the transportation challenges."

With all the additional car use the plan envisions, the plan will also perpetuate climate challenges. More than half (52 percent) of Eugene's global warming pollution comes from driving, according to a July city of Eugene study.

Although considerable local attention has focused on green building to reduce heating and lighting energy, residential electricity use represents only 3 percent of the local contribution to global warming, according to the study. That's because almost all local electricity is produced by hydropower which doesn't cause air pollution.

With increased driving largely driving the increase, Eugene greenhouse gas pollution in 2020 will be two thirds higher than in 1990, the city estimates under current trends. Compare that to the Kyoto treaty the mayor signed on to, which calls for a 7 percent reduction from 1990 levels by 2012.

'Obviously, here locally, LCOG doesn't get it yet.'

— Rob Zako, 1000 Friends of Oregon

Recognizing the "serious threat" to Oregon's economy, environment and human health that global warming represents, the state Legislature passed HB 3543 this year setting greenhouse gas reduction goals of 10 percent below 1990 levels by 2020.

Friends of Eugene wrote that the bill and the federal Clean Air Act require LCOG to consider global warming in drafting the RTP, but LCOG dismissed the claim and refused to even do an accounting of the greenhouse pollution increase from its plan. "Obviously, here locally, LCOG doesn't get it yet," Zako said.

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has also not changed its push for massive new freeway projects throughout the state in response to state policy change around global warming. "I think the memo never got to them," Sorenson said.

Zako said he hasn't given up hope. Gov. Ted Kulongoski recently appointed a more environmental chairperson for ODOT, he said. The local freeway plan could also be changed over the next several years if Eugene officials push for a more environmentally friendly TransPlan, he added.

But Matthews of Friends of Eugene said the rubber needs to meet the road when it comes to global warming and local transportation plans. With scientists saying global warming damage now will take decades to slowly reverse, "every year that we sit on our butts right now costs us a generation at the other end, a generation of suffering," Matthews said. "We're really hurting our children's children."

EW

WHAT'S happening



While in the midst of flood season (and with water, literally, surrounding us on all sides) it is *muy importante* that we seek great adventure and merriment down the rabbit hole – or, probably easier, on artificial ice surfaces. Enter the Lane Events Center's **Holiday Ice Show**, a Friday-Saturday affair benefiting Toys for Tots (admission is a new, unwrapped store-pack-

aged toy for a child ... so don't just walk over to the Holiday Market and pick up The *Real* Game of Life), with this year's theme being "Alice's Wonderland: Skating Through The Looking Glass." The costumes are sure to be more Disney, less Lewis Carroll. See Calendar.

OMG! OMP! Always a seasonal favorite, the impeccable teamsters of the **Oregon Mozart Players** bring their candlelit concert, **Baroque for the Holidays**, to local churches for a soothing, darn near spiritual musical experience of works by Handel, Telemann, Vivaldi and Bach. (What? No Mozart?) Special guest vocalist **Natalie Gunn** (pictured right) is featured in this three-day showing. We saw the Portland soprano wax ecstatic as The Queen of the Night at the Astoria Music Festival's 2004 production of *The Magic Flute*, and we were damn impressed. A regular with the Portland Opera, Gunn will flex her vocal reach on Bach's Cantata No. 210, "O holder Tag, erwünschte Zeit," which we loosely translate to mean "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas." Catch the show Monday and Wednesday at Eugene's First Christian Church, and Tuesday at Springfield's Ebbert Church. See Calendar.



Downtown Eugene opens its arms to the darkened evenings of winter this Friday with a very celebratious (if that's a word, do tell) **First Friday ARTWalk** that begins with a public tree lighting (a source of agony for many) at 8th and Oak (that's the Park Blocks, people, the park *blocks*). Lane Arts Council's Douglas Beauchamp hosts this monthly wander and will lead you to La Follette Gallery, the first stop on the art jaunt, where Portland artists Karen Ehlers (her *Vases* is pictured left) and Jan Cavecche have pooled their recent work in encaustic in a dual showing of this Jasper Johns-approved painting technique. Stop #2 views Connie Mueller's series of reduced linocut prints at White Lotus Gallery before hopping across Willamette for Karin Clarke Gallery's show of AdamGrosowskyness (with other paintings by grosowskyling Christopher Bechler). Anne Teigen's lush paintings are highlighted at the Opus6ix gallery for stop #4, while the Museum of Unfine Art finally gets its First Friday due (they had to book a lineup of name-checked artists to get it, though ... hey Marlis! Hey Rob D.! Hey John Holdway and Mackenzie!) for stop #5. The final stop of the year! See Friday Calendar.

6 THURSDAY

Sunrise 7:33am; Sunset 4:34pm
Av High 47; Av Low 34

ARTS/VISUAL Home & Hearth: Artist Open House, wine, food, music & art, 10am-6pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 8 & 9, 2548 Potter St. FREE.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Washington State wines, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$5.

Wine tasting w/Siva, 4pm, 20 East. FREE.

GATHERINGS Peter Young, former Animal Liberation Front prisoner, speaks w/presentation of documentary *Behind the Mask*, plus free dinner from Food Not Bombs, 6pm, 180 PLC, UO. FREE.

Greek Polytheism discussion group, 7pm, Perugino. www.wilddivine.org or 345-1844. FREE.

MUSIC SHOcase: Oregon Women's Choir, 12:15pm, Hult Center lobby. FREE.

Riverside Chamber Symphony, 7:30pm, Beall Hall, UO. \$5 sug. don.

Emerald City Jazz Kings present "Mistletoe and Holly," 7:30pm today & Dec. 9, The Shedd. www.theshedd.org

Eugene Symphony presents "American Spirituals," 8pm, Hult Center. 682-5000. \$15+.



Finn Riggins takes the law into its own hands at Sam Bond's Sunday

Jewmongous, 8pm, WOW Hall. \$15 adv., \$17 door.

Scotland Yard Gospel Choir, Huck Notari & the Highlanders, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5.

The Touchy Feeliacs, 8:30pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$4-\$8.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses debt collection and managing credit w/Joseph Hawes, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"New Dimensions" discusses *The Emergence of Integral Consciousness* w/Allan Combs, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Community Climb Time, learn or improve rock climbing skills, 5:50pm-8:30pm, Kelly Middle School. All ages. Gear provided. 682-5329. \$5.

THEATER *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, 7:30pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 8, 13-15; 2pm Dec. 9 & 16, Lord Leebriek Theatre. 465-1506. \$12-\$17.

WillRep's *A Christmas Carol*, 7:30pm today, 8pm tomorrow, Dec. 8; 2pm Dec. 9, Hult Center's Soreng Theater. \$15-\$35.

The Wizard of Oz, 8pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 8, 13-15; 2pm Dec. 9 and 16, Cottage Theater,

Cottage Grove. www.cottagetheater.org \$16-\$19.

7 FRIDAY

Sunrise 7:34am; Sunset 4:34pm
Av High 47; Av Low 34

ARTS/VISUAL Art Careers Art Show and Sale, 10am-7pm, Hilyard Community Center, 2580 Hilyard St. 682-5311. FREE.

First Friday ARTwalk, hosted by Douglas Beauchamp, 5pm, meet at 8th & Oak for Tree Lighting. FREE.

5pm openings include jewelry designs by Margarita O'Brien, Blue Moon Jewelry Designs; work by Steven Weeks, WOW Hall. 5:30pm openings include work by Karen Ehlers & Jan Cavecche, LaFollette Gallery; photography & paintings by Tricia Clark-McDowell, DIVA; prints by Connie Mueller, White Lotus Gallery; drawings by Nicola Noetic, New Zone Gallery. 6pm openings include paintings by Adam Grosowsky & Christopher Bechler, Karin Clarke Gallery; paintings by Anne Teigen, Opus6ix; designed snowboards by Network Charter School Students, Tactics Board Shop; four new exhibits, Museum of Unfine Art. 7pm openings include work by Skulleddie, Diablo's Downtown Lounge.

Linda Lu's Studio Sale, home & garden gifts, 4pm-8pm today, 10am-5pm tomorrow & Dec. 9, 2755 Kincaid. 343-0530. FREE.

2nd & Blair Artists Studio Sale and Open House, feat. the work of over 12 artists to show and sell, 5pm-9pm today, 11am-5pm tomorrow & noon-4pm Dec. 9, 2nd & Blair Blvd. FREE.

Opus6ix Artists Studio Sale, 5:30pm, Opus6ix. FREE.

Home & Hearth: Artist Open House continues. See Thursday, Dec. 6.

BENEFIT D.I.Y. Fashion Show, a benefit for the Flat Track Furies of the Emerald City Roller Girls, feat. The Soothsayers, Mis Led, The CoStars & films, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5-\$10.

DECEMBER ONGOING EVENTS

THURSDAYS

ARTS/VISUAL Open Art Studio, 6pm-9pm, M.E.C.C.A. 302-1810. \$2-\$5/hr.

GATHERINGS "Ask the Doula," 1pm-4pm, Mama Rose's Naturals. 485-9430.

HIV testing & STD clinic for general public, 1pm-3pm, Lane Co. Public Health, 135 E. 6th Ave. 682-4041. \$30, can be deferred.

Cascadia's Ecosystem Advocates meeting, 5pm, Emerald City Coffee. 688-2600.

KIDS/FAMILIES Pre-school storytime, 10:30am, Sheldon Library. 682-8316.

LGBT LGBT drop-in/support group, 7:30pm, Womenspace. 302-2417.

MUSIC The Lunch Crowd w/Dirty Mac, 10am daily, Emerald City Coffee House.

All Acoustic Music Jam, 10:30-noon, Campbell Center. 682-5318.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Drop-in kayaking, 8:30pm-10pm, Echo Hollow Pool. \$4.

SOCIAL DANCE Ballroom, latin, swing dance, 7:30pm, St. Mary's Episcopal Church. 344-7591. \$5.

English/Scottish Country Dance, 7:30pm, Drama Studio, Willamette High School.

SPIRITUAL Bhagavad-gita reading & study, 6pm, Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Ashram. 687-1093.

FRIDAYS

FARMERS' MARKETS Veneta Downtown Farmers' Market, 2pm-7pm, corner of Territorial & W. Broadway.

FOOD/DRINK Free espresso shots, 4pm-7pm, The Wandering Goat.

Wine tasting & music, 5pm, 20 East, 20 E. Broadway. FREE.

Wine tasting, 5pm-7pm, The Broadway.

GATHERING Group piano lesson, 10:30am, Lawson's Keyboard Center. 968-8056.

Food Not Bombs serves meals, 3:30pm-5pm, Broadway & Willamette (or 8th & Oak St. in case of rain).

KIDS/FAMILIES Baby storytime, 10:15am & 11am, Downtown Library. 682-8316.

Pre-school storytime, 10:15am & 11:15am, Bethel Library. 682-5766.

LGBT Queer Straight Alliance of LCC meetings, 12:30pm & 2:30pm Fridays and 3pm Thursdays, Rm. 206, Building 1, LCC. 463-3245.

GLBTQ Youth Group for ages 13-18, 4pm, Amazon Community Center. 684-3466.

Men's & women's gay/straight AA, 6pm, 1414 Kincaid. 484-6259.

ON THE AIR "Informed Talk," Eugene/Springfield community dialogue, 4pm, KWVA 88.1 FM.

SOCIAL DANCE Ballroom dance, 7:30pm, 220 Gerlinger Hall, 15th & University, UO. 346-6025.

Ballroom dance, 8:30pm, StaverDanceSport. 746-6268. \$10.

SPIRITUAL Peaceful Mama Meditations, 9:30am, Mama Rose's Naturals. 485-9430. \$5-\$10 sug. don.

SATURDAYS

GATHERINGS Motherless Daughters support group, 10am, 5th St. Beanery. 349-0382.

Family Yoga, 10am, StaverDanceSport, 41 E. 6th Ave. \$5 per person.

Co-Dependents Anonymous Serenity Meeting, noon, White Bird Clinic.

KIDS/FAMILIES Family Music Time, 2pm, Downtown Library. 682-8316.

Dog Tale Time, kids read to dogs, 2pm, Downtown Library. Register, 682-5450.

LGBT Eugene GLBTQ Frontrunners meeting, 9am, 15th & Agate. 683-2692 or 484-6259.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Table Tennis doubles, 8:30am, Willamalane Adult Center. www.lanetabletennis.net or 343-8055.

SOCIAL DANCE Tango dance, 8pm, The Tango Center. www.tango-center.org \$5.

Ballroom dance, 8:30pm, StaverDanceSport. 746-6268. \$7.

SPIRITUAL Green Tara, 9:45am, K.D.C. Meditation Center, 917 E. 43rd. Avadhut Fellowship, w/veggie potluck, facilitated by Radha-Syam Das, 11am, Shambala, 446 E. 13th. 868-1178.

Adyashanti-video, meditation, inquiry, 4:30pm, River Rd. area. 461-

8044 or 206-2589. \$2 sug. don.

VOLUNTEER Willow Creek Preserve restoration work, 9:30am every 2nd Saturday. Matt, 915-7459. Bring lunch, water, gloves.

VIGIL Peace vigil, noon, old federal courthouse, 7th & Pearl.

SUNDAYS

GATHERINGS Drums of Peace (bring your drum), 2pm, old Federal Building.

Food Not Bombs serves meals, 3pm-5pm, Washington-Jefferson Park. Fairmount Neighborhood Historic District discussion group, 7pm, Starbucks, 13th & Alder.

LGBT Coffee Social, 1pm, Q Center, 1309 Lincoln St. Don.

MUSIC All Ages Jazz Jam, 3:30pm, The Jazz Station.

ON THE AIR "Sunday Morning Hangover" w/Rev. Marc Time, exotica, bizarre children's music, comedy, more, 10am-noon, KWVA 88.1 FM.

SOCIAL DANCE Veselo Community Folk Dancers cultural dance, 7:15pm, In Shape Fitness, 2681 Willamette. \$3, \$2 stu, sr.

SPIRITUAL Programs on the "Path of Pure Desire," 10am, call 653-8859 for details.

Chenrezig (Bodhisattva of Compassion) practice, 10am, Nyen-Gyud Samten Choe-Ling Tibetan Buddhist Study and Meditation Center.

www.ngscl.org

"Coalescence: The Alchemy of Movement," 10:30am, Eugene Ballet Academy, 1590 Willamette. 556-4355. \$5-\$10.

Meditation and practice of the Buddha Path, 11am, Dzogchen Dharma Center, 2895 Oak St.

Dharmachakra, 4:30pm, Dharmalaya Center, 356 Horn Ln.

Mahakala, 5:15pm, K.D.C. Meditation Center, 917 E. 43rd.

Kirtan chanting-devotional gathering & feast, 6pm, Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Ashram, 25 E. 32nd Ave. soul2soul108@yahoo.com

Way of the Tao Drum Medicine Wheel, 7pm 2nd and 4th Sundays, Yurt, 2826 Floral Hill. 915-5723. Don..

VIGIL Drums of Peace, 2pm-4pm, old federal courthouse, 7th & Pearl.

MONDAYS

GATHERINGS Drop-in group for survivors of sexual assault/abuse, 7pm, Sexual Assault Support Services, 591 W. 19th Ave. 484-9791.

Co-Dependents Anonymous meeting, noon, St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

HIV Alliance offers Rapid HIV tests to men who have sex with men and partners of HIV+ folks, 5pm-8pm, 1966 Garden Ave. Angela, 342-5088.

Poker Night, 6pm, Q Center, 1309 Lincoln St. 726-1046.

Springfield Jazz Singers rehearsal, 7pm, Emerald Art Center. www.springfieldjazzsingers.org or 744-1097.

Sing & perform Russian music, 7pm, Eugene Hotel. 747-7416.

Contact Improvisational jams, 7pm, Dharmalaya. 461-1384. \$5.

LGBT Men's gay/straight AA, 6pm, 1414 Kincaid. 484-6259.

MUSIC Sound-Bytes, new music, 11:54am, Collier House, 13th & University.

ON THE AIR Amy Goodman's Democracy NOW!, 7am M-F, KWVA 88.1 FM and 5pm M-F, CTV Channel 29.

Inform Radio, progressive news and community affairs, 6:30pm, KWVA 88.1 FM.

SOCIAL DANCE West Coast Swing dance, 7pm, Agate Hall, UO. www.68swing.com

Afro-Brazilian dance study group w/live music, 8pm, Core Star Cultural Center, 439 W. 2nd Ave.

SPIRITUAL Christian Science reading group, 2pm, CS Reading Room, 1135 Willamette. 344-6341. FREE.

"Reflections on the Life of the Spirit" study circle, 6:30pm, Baha'i Center. 344-7899.

"Modern Day Mystics: A Taste of Consciousness," video or audio w/discussion, 7pm, Downtown Athletic Club. 228-8546.

VIGIL Women in Black silent vigil, 5pm, 7th & Pearl.

TUESDAYS

ARTS/VISUAL Open studio, bring projects and ideas to work on, 11am-4pm, Applegate Art Gallery, Veneta. 935-4286.

Drop-in figure drawing w/live model, 6pm-9pm, DIVA. \$10.

GATHERINGS HIV testing & STD clinic, 1pm-3pm, Lane Co. Public Health. 682-4041. \$30, can be deferred.

HIV Alliance offers Rapid HIV tests to men who have sex with men and partners of HIV+ folks, 5pm-8pm, 1966 Garden Ave. Angela, 342-5088.

Eugene PeaceWorks meeting, 5:15pm, Growers Market, 454 Willamette. Bi & Beyond meets 5:30pm 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, EMU, UO. 346-3360.

NIP DU Study & Publishing Group meeting, 5:30pm 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, Cozmic Pizza. www.nukeinfo.org

Food Addicts Anonymous meeting, 7pm, Westside Christian Church. www.foodaddictsanonymous.org

LGBT Queer Line for LGBTQQA youth, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, Rm. 202, LCC DTC, 1159 Willamette. queerline@gmail.com

KIDS/FAMILIES Toddler storytime, 10am, Barnes and Noble. 687-0356.

Tiny Tots & Toddler storytime, 10:15am & 11am, Downtown Library. 682-8316.

ON THE AIR "Anarchy Radio" with John Zerzan, 9pm, KWVA 88.1 FM.

SOCIAL DANCE International folk dance, 7pm, St. Mary's Episcopal Church. 688-0099. www.eugenefolkdancers.com \$1.50.

West Coast Swing dance, 7:30pm, Rock 'n' Rodeo. 687-9464.

Tango dance to alternative tango music, 8pm-11pm, Tango Center. \$4-\$7.

Tango dance, 8:30pm, Centro Del Sol, 513 E. Main, Cottage Grove.

SPIRITUAL Christian Science reading group: *Misc. Writings* by Eddy, 2pm, CS Reading Room, 1135 Willamette. 344-6341. FREE.

Spiritual Circle, 5pm, 5th St. Public Community Meeting Rm. 543-5994.

Open Sky Shambhala Meditation group, 7pm, 100 W. Q St., Spfd. 726-1988.

Guided meditation, 7pm, Shambala, 446 E. 13th. 868-1178. Don.

VIGIL "Practicing Being Peace," silent meditation, 8:15am, old federal bldg., 7th & Pearl.

WEDNESDAYS

FILM S.P.R.O.U.T-ed Cinema, radical movie nights, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, The Lorax Manner, 1648 Alder St. 683-0642 for movie info.

GATHERINGS Reiki practitioner exchange, 1pm-3pm every 1st & 3rd Wednesday, Willamalane Center, 215 W. C St., Spfd. 726-8737.

Recovery Inc., self help mental health support group, 5pm, McNail-Riley House, 13th & Jefferson. 461-5495.

Co-Dependents Anonymous Women's Open Step Study meeting, 5:30pm, St. Thomas Episcopal Church.

OCD/Anxiety Disorder support group, 5:15pm, Hilyard Comm. Center. 349-0382.

HIV+ social and support group, 6pm, HIV Alliance. 342-5088.

KIDS/FAMILIES Pre-school storytime for ages 3-6 and lapsit storytime for up to age 3, 10am, Springfield Library.

Pre-school storytime, 10:15am & 11am, Downtown Library. 682-8316.

Children's storytime (new & old favorites), 6:30pm, Barnes & Noble.

LGBT Queer friendly writers group, 4pm, Suite 34, EMU, UO.

Rapid HIV tests for gay/bi/queer/trans men (incentives available), afternoons, Lane Co. Public Health. 682-3959 or 342-5088 for an appt.

Queer Women's Night, 6pm-9pm, Q Center, 1309 Lincoln. 762-1046.

ON THE AIR "Live Archive," featuring full length, unreleased bootleg concerts spanning the past three decades, 9pm, KRVM 91.9 FM.

SOCIAL DANCE Swing dance, 7pm, Tango Center. www.eugenelindy.com \$4.

SPIRITUAL Reiki Circle, 6:30pm, Shambala, 446 E. 13th. 868-1178.

Circle of Reflection, 7pm, 1130 Mill St. 747-3887. Don.

Free lecture on transcendental meditation, 7:30 pm, The Maharishi Enlightenment Center, 1509 Willamette. 684-4801.

Shamatha (calm abiding) meditation practice, 6:30pm, Nyen-Gyud Samten Choe-Ling Tibetan Buddhist Study and Meditation Center. www.ngscl.org

Kirtan with Jaya Lakshmi and friends, gathering for prayer and meditation, 7pm, Dharmalaya. 342-7621. \$5-\$10 sug. don.

Reiki treatments, all day, Campbell Senior Center. Make appointment at 682-5318. Don.

VIGIL Peace vigil, 4pm, old federal bldg., 7th & Pearl.

NOTE: Ongoing weekly events are listed at the beginning of each month. Events that happen more than once a week are listed under the first day they take place. All are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

eugene weekly DECEMBER 6, 2007 31

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8TH
Free lessons 8:30-9:30pm
Dance 10pm-1:30am
All ages welcome • \$5 Cover

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Don't Miss! Sunday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. :
FREE Jewelry Make 'n' Take Workshop

FOOD For Lane County
Bring at least 3 canned food items for Food for Lane County and receive a free pair of Jody Coyote earrings (up to \$30 value)!

For more information, call 434-8607



County Fairgrounds. www.holiday-market.org FREE.

Holiday Farmers' Market, 10am-6pm today, tomorrow and Dec. 15-16 & 22-23, Lane County Fairgrounds. 431-4923. FREE.

Neighborhood Healing Fair, seminars in yoga, natural healing, music & art, open all day, Alder House, 2620 Alder St. FREE.

Oregon Knife Collectors Show, 8am-4pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. 484-5564. FREE.

KSOW Holiday Market, 10am-4pm today & Dec. 15, 517 E. Main St., Cottage Grove. 942-1067. FREE.

AAUW's Holiday Brunch & Silent Auction, feat. Irish music by Blackbriar, 10am, Eugene Hilton. RSVP, 344-4134. \$15.

Waldorf School Winter Light Faire, feat. music, Eugene Youth Ballet performance, food booths, crafts, games & more, 11am-4pm, 1350 McLean Blvd. FREE.

Motherless Daughters' support group, 3pm, 5th St. Beanery. 349-0382. FREE.

An Herbal Year, slide show presentation, 7pm-9pm, The Apocalypse On Broadway, 2100 W. Broadway #1. \$3-\$5 sug. don.

Oak Patch Gifts Public Sale continues. See Friday.

King Estate's Holiday Faire continues. See Friday.

KIDS/FAMILIES Holiday Family Day & Open House, card and gift wrap making, music & performance by Ballet Fantastique, 11am-3pm, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, UO. FREE.

holidays are sweet

egg, dairy & animal product free: gingerbread
petits fours
stollen
fruitcake
egg and dairy free: apple mince/pie
holiday shortbread
pizzelle
gingerbread people
fudge
ka'rou chocolates
bûche de Noël
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springerle
sugarplum
peppermint bark
snow globe
jewel berry cheesecake
loaf cakes

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calendar

Nearby Nature: "Simple Gifts," a walk in the woods to find material to make a gift & more, 10am-noon, Park Host Residence, Alton Baker Park. Register, 687-9699. \$2, \$5 family.

"Alice's Wonderland," Holiday Ice Show continues. See Friday.

LGBT Hot Flash Holiday Party: feat. authors Lipstick and Dipstick, hip hop artist KRITIK & go-go dancers, 5pm-9pm, Indigo District. 21+. \$8.

LITERARY ARTS Authors & Artists Fair, meet 40 authors and 20 artists, 10am-6pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.lanelibrary.org \$1-\$5 sug. don.

MUSIC Community Music Institute Chamber Players perform classical string music, 1pm-4pm, Barnes & Noble. FREE.

"Holiday Music II," music by Emerald Chamber Players, 2pm, Atrium, 10th & Olive. FREE.

Emerald Valley Opry, 6:30pm, Willamette High School, 1801 Echo Hollow Rd. \$5, \$4, \$2 adult, sr., ages 7-16 or if you bring canned food don., under 7 free.

Famine Relief benefit concert, feat. Kudana, Pachi Pamwe, Paul Prince, 7pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5-\$20.

Ken Peplowski & Dick Hyman, 7:30pm, The Shedd. \$12-\$32.

Sideroads, 8pm, Tsunami Books. \$5-\$10.

The Green Mountain Boys, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$6.

I-Chele & the Circle of Light, 9:30pm, World Café. Don.

Dirty Sweet, Limosine, The Dregs, 10pm, John Henry's. 21+. \$4.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Obsidians trip: Tahkenitch, hike, 3 miles. See YMCA board for details.

Jingle Bells Run & Walk, 5k, 9am, Maurie Jacobs Park. 686-4494. FREE.

Community Climb Time, learn or improve rock climbing skills, 8am-2pm at Madison Middle School; 2pm-5pm at Jefferson Middle School; 6pm-9pm at Monroe Middle School. All ages. Gear provided. 682-5329, \$5.

SOCIAL DANCES Scandinavian dance, lessons 3pm, open dance 4pm, Cesar Chavez Elementary, 1510 W. 14th. 935-6051. \$2.

Contra dance, lessons 7:30pm, open dance 8pm, Cesar Chavez Elementary. 521-0596. \$7, \$6 stu.

SPIRITUAL Fire Rituals, 9am-noon, Arsha Vijnana Mandiram, 1190 W 27th. FREE.



Hanukkah Candlelighting Celebration, feat. ceremony, music & stories, 6pm, Washington Park Clubhouse, 20th & Washington. \$12 sug. don.

THEATER *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 6.

The Wizard of Oz continues. See Thursday, Dec. 6.

WillRep's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 6.

ACE's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Friday.

VOLUNTEER Amazon Creek Work Party, plant native plants along Amazon Creek, 9am-noon, meet at West Eugene Wetlands Project Office, 751 S. Danebo. 683-6494. Tools/gloves provided.

Community Tree Planting, 9am-1pm, Garden Lake Park, Creswell. coastfork@willamette.net

9 SUNDAY
Sunrise 7:36am; Sunset 4:34pm
Av High 46; Av Low 34

ARTS/VISUAL Holiday Show & Sale of Hannah Goldrich's jewelry and Mike Pease's paintings & drawings, 11am-4pm, 768 W. 10th Ave. 345-8819. FREE.

Home & Hearth: Artist Open House continues. See Thursday, Dec. 6.

2nd & Blair Artists Studio Sale & Open House continues. See Friday.

Linda Lu's Studio Sale continues. See Friday.

Kenneth Standhardt's Studio Sale continues. See Saturday.

Annie Hubbard's Studio Sale continues. See Saturday.

BENEFIT Santa Paws and his Reinbound continues. See Friday.

DANCE Eugene Youth Ballet performs *The Nutcracker*, 5:30pm, Eugene Hotel. FREE.

GATHERINGS Saturday Market's Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, featuring hundreds of booths, international food court and performances by Eugene Bhangra Youth Group, 10:30am; O'Carolan's Consort, 11:30am; Debra Mathis, 12:30pm; Red Pajamas, 1:45pm; Soromundi Lesbian Chorus of Eugene, 3:15pm; Paul & Nancy's Love Truffle, 4:45pm; and in Holiday Hall, Eagle Park Slim, noon; Beth Miriam Rose, 2pm; and Emily Fox, 4pm, Lane County Fairgrounds. www.holidaymarket.org FREE.

Oak Patch Gifts Public Sale continues. See Friday.

King Estate's Holiday Faire continues. See Friday.

LECTURE Real estate buying and selling lecture, 1pm-4pm, Reflections Realty. 914-9696. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS PETA cofounder Ingrid E. Newkirk will discuss & sign copies of *Let's Have A Dog Party*, 4pm, Books Without Borders, 199 W. 8th. FREE.

MUSIC Elizabeth Cable, 10am, Peace Presbyterian Church, 3060 River Road. FREE.

Dave Gross & Friends, 2pm, Tsunami Books. FREE.

Suzuki Strings Program performs classical string music, 2pm-4pm, Barnes & Noble. FREE.

Eugene Concert Choir presents Handel's *Messiah*, 2:30pm, Hult Center. 682-5000. \$19-\$34.

Finn Riggins, Love That Dress, Leo London, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5.

Eyedeas & Abilities, Sector 7g, Abzorber, Three Blind Mics, The Cougar Hunters, 9pm, WOW Hall. \$10 adv., \$12 door.

Reptet, 9pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$5.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Eugene Cyclocross Racing presents Psycho Cross Series, 9:30am-3pm, Camp Harlow. bikinjoe@gmail.com or 517-0685. \$10-\$20.

THEATER *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 6.

The Wizard of Oz continues. See Thursday, Dec. 6.

WillRep's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 6.

ACE's *A Christmas Carol* continues. See Friday.

VOLUNTEER Plant native trees & shrubs along West Eugene wetlands, tools supplied, 9am-1:30pm, meet at Long Tom Watershed Council Office to carpool to site. RSVP, jgarmon@longtom.org or 683-6949.

10 MONDAY
Sunrise: 7:37am; Sunset 4:34pm
Av High 46; Av Low 34

GATHERINGS NEHS Academy of Arts Local History Showcase, 14 short oral history documentaries, 5:30pm, Cozmic Pizza. FREE.

Native Plant Society: Holiday Social & Slide Show, bring 10-12 slides & a snack, Science Bldg Rm. 117, LCC. 746-9478. FREE.

"Western Oregon's Old-growth Forests Under Fire," a community discussion of the Western Oregon Plan Revision, 6:30pm, Downtown Library. 344-0675. FREE.

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Directed by Joe Zingo



Tiny Tim's Food Drive

Christmas is the time for giving!
Throughout the run of A CHRISTMAS CAROL, Actors Cabaret of Eugene will be collecting food in the lobby for Tiny Tim's Food Drive.

Call 683-4368
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Adapted by Barbara Robinson
Based on her award-winning novel
Directed by Rebecca Teran
Musical Direction by Mark VanBeever

December 14, 15, 21 & 22, 2007 at 7:30 PM

December 16 & 22, 2007 at 2:00 PM

*See how a story can transform us all,
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kids in bathrobes and bed sheets*



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calendar

LECTURE Freedom from the Food Fight, info. by Donna Stevens on food & body issues, 7pm-9pm, Unity of the Valley Church. 434-6607 x2. FREE.

MUSIC Oregon Mozart Players present "Candlelight Concert: Baroque for the Holidays," featuring work by Handel, Telemann, Vivaldi & Bach, 7:30pm today & Dec. 12, First Christian Church, 1166 Oak. 682-5000. \$15-\$30.

Community Chanukah Concert feat. the Klezmonauts, candle-lighting ceremony & latkes, 7pm, Ahavas Torah, 3800 Ferry St. 334-6772. FREE.

Shasta Middle School Winter Concert, 7pm, Hult Center. \$6.50.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses creative collaboration and creating fantasy worlds for children, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

11
TUESDAY
Sunrise 7:38am; Sunset 4:34pm
Av High 46; Av Low 34

BENEFITS Benefit wine tasting for The Bearen Foundation, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$10 (half donated to non-profit).

HollyDayz Party & benefit for Womenspace, feat. music by The T Club, 8pm, Diablo's Downtown Lounge. \$3 or don. of goods for women or children.

GATHERINGS AAUW Dinner Group meeting, 5:30pm, 5th St. Public Market's International Café. RSVP, 344-4134. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Arts Umbrella Youth Orchestras winter gala concert, 7:30pm, South Eugene High School. \$7, \$5 sr., \$3 stu. (\$15 family).

MUSIC Oregon Mozart Players present "Candlelight Concert: Baroque for the Holidays," featuring work by Handel, Telemann, Vivaldi & Bach, 7:30pm, Ebbert Church, 532 C St., Spfd. 682-5000. \$15-\$30.

Helen Thayer discusses her experiences in the Gobi at REI Friday



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\$12 a person suggested donation.
For more information call 434-6551

calendar



Sharon Jones and the Dap Kings funk up PDX's Doug Fir Lounge Friday.
See On the Road listings

Christmas Choral Concert, 7:30pm, Springfield High School Auditorium. FREE.

The Spirit of Jazz Jam, 8pm, The Jazz Station. \$2-\$5.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses personal goals and athletic training as we age, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"Alternative Radio" presents Nubar Hovsepian: "The War on Lebanon," 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

12 WEDNESDAY

Sunrise 7:39am; Sunset 4:34pm
Av High 46; Av Low 33

FILM Heckler's Movie Night: *Double Team*, 7pm, Wandering Goat. FREE.

GATHERINGS Coalition meeting to discuss preparation for climate change and peak oil, 6:30pm-9pm, Grower's Market Bldg, 454 N. Willamette. FREE.

Friends of BRING volunteer planning meeting, 9am, BRING Recycling, 86641 Franklin Blvd. 606-9093. FREE.

Eugene Macintosh Users Group monthly meeting, topic "What's for Christmas?" 6:30pm, Vet's Club. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Eugene Youth Ballet performs *The Nutcracker*, 4pm & 5pm, Downtown Library. FREE.

Eugene Youth Symphony winter concert, 7:30pm, South Eugene

High School. \$7, \$5 sr., \$3 stu. (\$15 family).

MUSIC Punk the Halls Tour, feat. Stellar Kart, Nevertheless, Eleventyseven, Our Hearts Hero, Break Down dance group, hosted by Manifest, 7pm, WOW Hall. \$15.

The Red Elvises, 8pm, John Henry's. 21+. \$10.

Mark Ettlinger, Fledging, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5.

"Candlelight Concert: Baroque for the Holidays," continues. See Monday.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses charitable giving, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION WREN hosts a Wednesday Wander, 9am, meet at Willow Creek Natural Area. Binoculars provided. www.wewetlands.org or 683-6494. FREE.

SOCIAL DANCE Cajun/Zydeco dance, 6:30pm-9pm, World Café, 449 Blair Blvd. FREE.

13 THURSDAY

Sunrise 7:39am; Sunset 4:34pm
Av High 46; Av Low 33

BENEFIT The Wild: A Benefit for Jeff Luers & The Shac 7, discussion and music by The Blair Street Mugwumps, 7pm, Cozmik Pizza. \$5-\$20.

FOOD/DRINK Wine tasting: Italian wines, 5pm-9pm, WineStyles. \$5.

GATHERINGS Willamette Valley Chapter of the Project Management Institute monthly meeting, 5:45pm-8pm, Springfield Symantec, 555 International Way. FREE.

Cascade Mycological Society presentation by Terry Gatchell on collecting & cooking wild mushrooms, Bldg 16 Rm 115, LCC. For pricing call 463-5260.

Helios Resource Network Open House: food, drink, comedy, 5pm-9pm, 1192 Lawrence. FREE.

MUSIC SHOCASE: Kusinhira Youth Ensemble, 12:15pm, Hult Center lobby. FREE.

Dance for Impeachment, feat. Michael Human, Sonny & The Moonlighters, The Audio Schizophrenic, more, 8pm, WOW Hall. \$8 adv., \$12 door.

Testface, Devon Williams, 9pm, Sam Bond's. 21+. \$3-\$5.

4 local female DJs: Moonvoid, Lelu Laserlight, DJ Layla, DJ KaatSkratch, 9pm, Diablo's Downtown Lounge. 21+. \$3.

ON THE AIR "The Jefferson Exchange" discusses Irish culture and Christmas in Ireland, 9am & 9pm, KRVM 1280 AM.

"New Dimensions" discusses *Our Natural Goodness* w/Sylvia Boorstein, 6:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Community Climb Time, learn or improve rock climbing skills, 5:50pm-8:30pm, Kelly Middle School. All ages. Gear provided. 682-5329. \$5.

THEATER "A Celtic Holiday," feat. music by Linda Danielson & Chico Schwall and storytelling w/David Stuart Bull, 9:30pm

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OF UNFINE ART AND RECORD STORE
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SAVOY TRUFFLE * TEAM CHARDONNAY
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\$8 Advance tickets at the Museum of Unfine Art & Records(537 Willamette), \$12 at the door.

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calendar

today, Dec. 17-18 and 19-20; 3pm tomorrow, Dec. 15 and 21-22, Café Soriah. 342-4410. \$10.

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play continues. See Thursday, Dec. 6.

The Wizard of Oz continues. See Thursday, Dec. 6.

CORVALLIS events

Note - Continuation dates for out-of-town events are listed under the first day of the event.

THURSDAY, DEC. 6 Salsa practice, 7:30pm-9:30pm, Odd Fellows Hall, 223 SW 2nd St. \$5 sug. don.

FRIDAY, DEC. 7 Samaritan Village Holiday Faire, 9am-4pm, 285 NW 35th St., Corvallis. FREE.

Goodbye, Charlie, 8pm today, tomorrow & Dec. 13-15; 2:30pm Dec. 9, Albany Civic Theater. www.albanycivic.org \$7-\$10.

SATURDAY, DEC. 8 Corvallis Waldorf School Winterfest, 11am-4pm, 3855 NE Hwy. 20. 758-4674. FREE.

Corvallis Folklore Society presents Bruce Molsky w/Tatiana & Alex Hargreaves, 7:30pm, Unitarian Church. \$16 adv., \$17 door, \$14 members, \$10 under age 15.

SUNDAY, DEC. 9 HOUR Traders Winter Celebration, feat. marketplace, music, more, noon-3pm, Old World Deli. 928-4723. FREE.

ON THE road

FRIDAY, DEC. 7 Coast Watch Conference: Rocky Oregon Shores, 3:30pm-5pm today & 10am-4:30pm tomorrow, 3149 Oak St., Florence. (503) 238-4450 or www.oregoncoastwatch.org FREE.

"ArtGift" show w/over 30 artists presenting art for sale, 3pm-8pm today & 10am-5pm tomorrow, Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St. FREE.

Prefuse 73, School of Seven Bells, Blank Blue, 9pm, Holocene, PDX. 21+.

Sharon Jones and the Dap Kings, 9pm, Doug Fir Lounge, PDX. 21+.

Mars Retrieval Unit, 9pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

Find a gift with character at the "Art Gift Show" at the Florence Events Center. See On the Road listings



SATURDAY, DEC. 8 Heceta Head Lightstation Victorian Christmas, 4pm-7pm today, tomorrow & Dec. 15-16, 92072 Hwy 101, Yachats. \$3 per vehicle.

Silas, 9pm, The Landmark, Yachats. FREE.

Christmas Party w/Gaye Lee Russell Band, 8pm, Rose Garden Inn, 413 State Hwy 38, Drain. FREE.

THURSDAY, DEC. 13 Black Tide, Avenged Sevenfold, 8pm, Roseland Theater, PDX.

ATTN: OPPORTUNITIES

Submission deadline for the DIVA 2008 OpenLens Festival has been extended to Friday, Dec. 7. www.proscenia.net/openlens or 344-3482.

Applications are now being accepted for the Breast Cancer

Fund's "Climb Against the Odds 2008." Fifteen spaces still available on a team of 40 who will climb Mount Shasta in June for breast cancer prevention. carly@breastcancerfund.org or 415-346-8223.

Cottage Theatre is holding auditions for *Chicago* on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 1pm. Nine men & 10 women are needed. Auditioners should prepare a song for vocal audition. No a capella; be prepared to dance. Copies of the script available for review. Contact www.cottagetheatre.org or 942-8001.

Throughout Dec., employees from 94.9 Jamz, McKenzie Funding & The Eugene Mission will be on the corner of Willakenzie & Coburg 24hrs/day until 949 pounds of turkeys, hams & canned food have been gathered.

Save the Pets will be at Petsmart every Saturday & Sunday between 11am-3pm through December w/adoptable dogs & cats. Adoption fees have been lowered. www.savethepets.net

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art in the galleries

All exhibits free unless otherwise noted.

OPENING

Blue Moon Jewelry Designs Jewelry work by Margarita O'Brien. An opening is 5pm Friday. 10am-6pm M-F, 10am-5pm Sa, noon-5pm Su. 115 W. 6th.

Café Soriah Fiber paintings by Sandra McMorris Johnson, through Jan. 15. 11am-2pm M-F, 5pm-10pm Su-Th, 5pm-11pm F-Sa. 384 W 13th.

Diablo's Downtown Lounge Work by Skulleddie, through Dec. 31. An opening is 7pm Friday. 11am-2:30am M-F, 3pm-2:30am Sa-Su. 959 Pearl.

DIVA "Between the Shadow and Soul: Mystical Nature Photographs and Paintings" by Tricia Clark-McDowell, through Dec. 31. An opening is 5:30pm Friday. "Members' Miniatures," work by DIVA member artists; "Perspectives," work by Andreas & Jennifer Salzman; "The Silence of Light," work by R. Schofield; "MKAC Showcase," work by students of Bollons & Ross, through Dec. 22. Noon-5pm Tu-Sa. 110 W. Broadway.

Emerald Art Center "Travels Through the Pacific Coast States," paintings by Renee Manford; plus work by member artists Carol Plaia, Sylvia Casillas and B.J. Burnett, through Dec. 29. "Fall Show '07" student exhibit, through Jan. 10. 11am-4pm Tu-Sa. 500 Main Street, Spfd.

Karin Clarke Gallery Paintings by Adam Grosowsky & Christopher Bechler, through Dec. 22. An opening is 6pm Friday. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 760 Willamette.

La Follette Gallery Encaustic works by Karen Ehlers & Jan Cavecche, through Dec. 31. An opening is 5:30pm Friday. 10am-6pm M-F, 10am-5pm Sa. 931 Oak.

Museum of Unfine Art Work by Marlis Badalich, Rob Adams, John Holdway & Mackenzie Petersen, through Dec. 14. An opening is 6pm Friday. 10:37am-7:06pm M-F, 1:13pm-7:01pm Sa. 537 Willamette St.

New Zone Gallery "Strands of Silent Screams," drawings by Nicola Noetic, through Dec. 29. An opening is 5:30pm Friday. W-Su noon-6pm. 164 W Broadway.

Opus6ix "Confronting the Canvas," paintings by Anne Teigen, through Jan. 13. An opening is 6pm

Friday. 10am-6pm Tu-Th & Sa, 10am-8pm F, 11am-4pm Su. 22 W. 7th.

Tactics Board Shop Designed snowboards by Network Charter School Students, ongoing. An opening is 6pm Friday. 11am-7pm M-Sa, noon-5pm Su. 375 W. 4th.

WOW Hall Work by Steven Weeks, through Dec. 31. An opening is 5pm Friday. Noon-6pm M-F. WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th.

CONTINUING

Adell McMillan Gallery "The Plague Drawings" by Clint Brown, through Dec. 7. 7am-11pm daily. EMU, UO.

Art of Glass Fused glass art by Wes Shafer and fantasy surreal art by Ron LaFond, through Dec. 26. 9am-5:30pm Tu-F; 9am-6pm M. 790 Blair.

Backstreet Gallery Work by Sharon Stiles & other Florence artists, through Dec. 31. 11am-5pm W-Su. 327 Laurel St., Florence.

Bagel Sphere-Eugene Plein Aire Painters exhibit, through Dec. 31. 7am-6pm M-F, 8am-5pm Sa, 9am-4pm Su. 810 Willamette.

Bagel Sphere-Springfield Plein Aire Painters exhibit, through Dec. 31. 7am-6pm M-F, 8am-5pm Sa, 9am-4pm Su. 5768 Main St.

Beanery-5th Street Work by Jim Derby, through Dec. 15. 6am-9pm M-Th; 6am-10pm F-Sa; 7am-9pm Su. 152 W. 5th.

Better Yet "The Dream Tree," collaboration by Peter Herley & David Miller, through Dec. 27. Noon-6:30pm M-Sa. 782 Blair Blvd.

Blooming Branch Bistro "Reflections in Watercolor," work by Barbara Aten & Demetra Kalams, through Dec. 31. 7:30am-8pm Tu-Th; 7:30am-9pm F-Sa; 7:30am-3pm Su-M. 49 W. 29th St.

Downtown Library Santa figurines exhibit, through Dec. 31. 10am-8pm M-Th; 10am-6pm F-Su. 100 W. 10th Ave.

Donald Dexter, DMD Cut paper display by Valisa Higman; watercolors by Carol Cabler, through Dec. 28. 8am-5pm M-F. 2233 Willamette, Bldg. B.

Espresso PRN West Nature photography by Walt Biddle, through Dec. 10. PeaceHealth Downtown Clinic, 1162 Willamette.

Fenario Gallery "Birthscapes," prints & paintings by Martina Hoffmann, through Dec. 31. Noon-6pm Tu-Sa. 881 Willamette St.

Full City Coffee-Pearl Paintings by Jim Derby, through Dec. 9. 7am-6pm M-Su. 842 Pearl.

Health Information Library, PeaceHealth Medical Group Annex Watercolors & pastels by Gladys Bacon, through Dec. 21. 9am-4:30pm M-Th; 9am-1pm F. 1202 Willamette.

The Horsehead Acrylic paintings by Sara Larson, through Dec. 31. 11:30am-2:30am daily. 99 W. Broadway St.

Island Park Art Gallery Prints by Susan Lowdermilk & Renee Manford, through Jan. 24. Willamalane Adult Activity Center, 215 W. C St., Spfd.

Jacobs Gallery "Four Visions: The Human Story," work by Germaine Bennett, Judith Nakhnikian, Janet Geib Pretti and Hoa-Lan Tran, through Jan. 5. Noon-4pm Tu-F; 11am-3pm Sa. Hult Center. 684-5635.

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art "NewArt Northwest" exhibit, through Dec. 30. 11am-8pm W; 11am-5pm Th-Su. 1430 Johnson Ln., UO. \$5, \$3 stu.

This One Is Dangerous, and other work by Steven Weeks, showing in the WOW Hall lobby through Dec. 31



& sr., FREE UO stu., faculty, staff.

Lane County Historical Society & Museum "The Hub of Lane County: The Eugene Park Blocks," ongoing. 10am-4pm Tu-Sa. 740 W. 13th. \$3, \$2 sr., FREE under age 14.

LaVerne Krause Gallery Mixed media group show, Dec. 3-7. 10am-6pm M-Th; 10am-3pm F. 101 Lawrence, UO.

LCC Art Gallery "Night Scenes," work by David Carmack Lewis, through Dec. 7. 8am-5pm M-Th; 8am-4pm F. Lane Community College, Building 11, 4000 E. 30th Ave.

LetterHead Sculptures by Betsy Wolfston, through Dec. 31. 10am-6pm M-F; 10am-5pm Sa; 11am-4pm Su. 25 E. 8th Ave.

Maude Kerns Art Center "Art for All Seasons," membership show; Club Mud Ceramics holiday sale, through Dec. 21. 10am-5pm M-F; noon-4pm Sa. 1910 E. 15th. \$3 sug. don.

Museum of Modern Malabon Art Rotating student artwork exhibit, ongoing. 8:15am-2:15pm M-F. Malabon Elementary School, 1380 Taney.

Museum of Natural & Cultural History "Rock Art: Ancient Images, New Views," works on paper by Allen Cox, through March 2. "The Flood Zone: Landscapes Sculpted by the Glacial Lake Missoula Floods," photography by Bill Woolston, through March 23. 11am-5pm W-Su. 1680 E. 15th. \$3, \$2 youths, sr.

Park St. Café "Cedar Fences in the Fall" and other work by Erin Kathleen Bucklew, through Dec. 6. 8am-3pm M-F, 9am-3:30pm Sa. 776 W. Park.

Planet Improvement Center "Bowled Over by Trash," sculpture by Tim Boyden, through Dec. 31. 8:30am-5pm M-Sa; 10am-5pm Su. 4446 Franklin Blvd., Glenwood.

Tamarack Wellness Center Work by seven photographers, through Jan. 25. 9am-5:30pm M-F; 9:30am-noon Sa. 3575 Donald St.

TEAL Art Collective Work by members artists, through Dec. 28. 10am-6pm M-Sa; noon-5pm Su. 240 SW Washington, Corvallis.

Wandering Goat "Cumulative Effect," abstract art by Amy Smith Garofano, through Dec. 28. 7am-11pm M-F, 9am-11pm Sa, 9am-9pm Su. 268 Madison.

White Lotus Gallery "Color Impressions," linocut reduction prints by Connie Mueller, through Dec. 8. 10am-5:30pm Tu-Sa. 767 Willamette.

WineStyles Work from the Bodies of Art women's art collective, through Dec. 31. 11am-6pm M; 11am-8pm Tu-W; 11am-9pm Th-Sa. 2846 Willamette.



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Judith Sparks - Paintings
Michael DiBitetto - Etchings
Roni Simone - Elegant Clothing
Susan Klein - Paintings, Metal Jewelry
Tamaris Landsman - Stained Glass Mosaics
Tim Giraudier - Photography of the Often Overlooked

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and Studio Sale

Friday, Dec. 7 • 5 to 9 pm
Saturday, Dec. 8 • 11 am to 5 pm
Sunday, Dec. 9 • 12 to 4 pm

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SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 8

11:00 A.M.
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arts shorts

A Book for Me, a Book for You ...

More than 50 Oregon authors and artists converge on the Lane County Fairgrounds this Saturday for the 8th Annual **Authors and Artists Fair**, a one-stop shopping trip for holiday gift givers looking to bestow art and signed books on friends and family. The list of participants is astonishingly long, and includes the likes of artists **Tallmadge Doyle** and **Ellen Gabehart**, cartoonists **Jan Eliot** and **Jesse Springer** and authors **Tom Hager** (*The Demon Under the Microscope*), **Lauren Kessler** (*Dancing with Rose*), **Kenny Moore** (*Readin' in the Rain* pick *Bowerman and the Men of Oregon*), **Dorcas Smucker** (*Upstairs the Peasants Are Revolting*), **William Sullivan** (*The Case of Einstein's Violin*), **Shannon Applegate** (*Living Among Headstones*), **Linda Crew** (*A Heart For Any Fate*), **Ehud Havazelet** (*Bearing the Body*), **Nina Kiriki Hoffman** (*Catalyst*), **Kate Wilhelm** (*A Wrongful Death*) and cookbook author **Maryana Vollstedt** (*Meatloaf*) – among many others.

One thing is different about the fair this year: Rather than benefiting the Eugene Public Library, as it has in the past, this year's fair benefits the summer reading programs of the Lane Library League, a "a non-profit citizens group working to expand and improve library service throughout Lane County," according to the group's website, which notes that more than 80,000 people in the county don't have access to public libraries. The summer reading program, the site goes on to say, provides free books and programs to children throughout the county.

The 8th Annual Authors and Artists Fair takes place from 10 am-6 pm Saturday, Dec. 8, at the Lane County Fairgrounds. \$1-\$6 sug. don. – *Molly Templeton*

Happy Woofday



I'll be honest: It never occurred to me that there might be a need for a book about, um, dog parties. Dog parties? It's an awkward phrase, for one thing. But if anyone can tell us how to go about throwing such things, it's doubtless PETA founder and president **Ingrid E. Newkirk**, whose new book, **Let's Have a Dog Party! 20 Tail-Wagging Celebrations to Share with Your Best Friend**, does just that. In the book's preface, Newkirk explains how she came to throw a dog party in the first place: She met two dogs in a hotel in England who needed more love, and she threw the dogs a party in her room.

That party was a fairly simple affair, whereas there are some more complicated offerings in *Let's Have a Dog Party*, from "Bark Mitzvahs" to Oktoberfests and beyond. The book covers menu planning, etiquette, party gifts and, well, everything you might possibly need to consider before having your dog party.

I just can't get used to that phrase. But hey! I'm a cat person. And cats don't like parties. Unless the parties offer stable laps. And possibly fish. You dog folks, with your enthusiastic, party-lovin' creatures? You'll have fun with this. Ingrid E. Newkirk signs books at a PETA fundraiser at 4 pm Sunday, Dec. 9, at Books Without Borders. One dollar from the sale of each copy of *Let's Have a Dog Party!* will be donated directly to PETA; there will also be a raffle for a Doggie Party Pack. Alas, your pups can't come; only assistance animals are permitted in the building Books Without Borders shares with Theo's Coffeehouse and Cozmic Pizza. For more information or tickets (which are free but required due to limited space), call 284-2838. – *Molly Templeton*

DIVA Granted

Been downtown for an art lesson, an ARTWalk, a movie or some noise music lately? Then you've probably been to **DIVA**, the little art initiative that could. With a new **\$35,000 grant from the Oregon Community Foundation**, the bustling spot and its hugely busy staff plan to do even more.

At a champagne celebration on Tuesday, Dec. 4, long-time local real estate broker Jean Tate handed over the OCF's check to DIVA executive director Mary Unruh. The three-person staff, all of whom have been part-time, will now work full time in the gallery/classroom/movie/music space.

"We have been at 1.6 FTE," Unruh said, "and we've done an awful lot with that." But, she explained, she will be able to turn over some of the day-to-day administration to staffers Eric Ostlind and Becky Guy. As Ostlind focuses on programming for artists and improving the sound quality for various media presentations, Unruh's job will include making improvements to the infrastructure of the space and helping to secure future funding. One thing she'll be searching for is money "to spruce up the lobby and make it look more like a visual arts organization," she said with a wry look at the utilitarian space.

"DIVA has done an incredible job of offering exhibits, education and more," Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy told Stender and Unruh. "You never take 'Slow down' as an answer; you just keep on going." As she offered her congratulations, glasses clinked.

Unruh joked, "We have champagne! That's why we won 'Best Stop on the First Friday ARTWalk!'" That, and the little matter of the number and quality of DIVA's shows and programs.

Randy Stender, chair of DIVA's board (and *EW* Happening Person on Nov. 26, 2006), said he was happy about the capacity-building grant, which helps DIVA get on the road to one of his goals: a permanent visual arts center downtown. "We have a performing arts center, the Hult, and a humanities center, the library, and the thing that was missing was a visual arts center," he said. Now DIVA may leverage this grant into fulfilling Stender's dream. – *Suzi Steffen*



Executive Director Mary Unruh and the big check



Heath Ledger as Robbie in *I'm Not There*

It Ain't He, Babe

Think more than twice about Dylan pic

I'M NOT THERE: Directed by Todd Haynes. Written by Haynes and Oren Moverman. Cinematography, Edward Lachman. Music supervisors, Randall Poster and Jim Dunbar. Starring Cate Blanchett, Heath Ledger, Christian Bale, Richard Gere, Marcus Carl Franklin, Ben Whishaw and Charlotte Gainsbourg. The Weinstein Company, 2007. R. 135 min. ★★★★★

There are more potential ways to review Todd Haynes' *I'm Not There* than there are, within the film, versions of a character rather like Bob Dylan. In the amount of space allotted to a review, I could focus solely on the acting, the casting, the details, the homages, the styles, the people and things seen in passing that it would take multiple viewings to catch. With each viewing, a different review might emerge; this is not a film that encourages one hard, definitive take, though some look for it anyway. It's an adventure and an idea, a conceptual montage of life, fiction, themes and music. Dylan, and the many characters Haynes and cowriter Oren Moverman find in his life and songs, provides a base for a series of visions that get inside your head slowly and surely. The surface-level ideas about identity and mythology knot themselves together with Dylan's songs (often, in the film, performed by others) until you find, later, that Haynes has worked a little trick: Listening to the Dylan albums that seem most analogous to the film's inhabitants, you're back in the film, the actors' faces in your mind.

The film follows six characters: a young boy, Woody (Marcus Carl Franklin), jumping trains in the 1950s and acting like he lives decades earlier; a sly poet, Arthur (Ben Whishaw), on trial (in a way) and narrating the film (in another way); a protest singer of the '60s, Jack (Christian Bale, surprisingly out of his element) who later turns preacher; an actor, Robbie (Heath Ledger, bearing the lonely ghost of Ennis Del Mar), who strikes it big playing Jack in a film; an outlaw, Billy (Richard Gere), who lives in a metaphor in the guise of a town; and, in the piece that draws the straightest line from the real Dylan to its subject, skinny, fidgety Jude (Cate Blanchett), contrary and high. (At times, the fun of detail is too much to resist, and I found myself in awe of the familiarity of Blanchett's mannerisms, Robbie's bearing,

Arthur's speech patterns, Haynes' remakes of scenes from *Don't Look Back*; these mental snags all seem purposeful, as Haynes toys with expectations and specifics and the context of his stars playing another kind of star.)

None of these characters is Bob Dylan; all of these characters are Bob Dylan. What Haynes is concerned with is a complex combination of identity and mythology, and the places the two intersect and separate. Each slim slice of his film theorizes about a Dylan that was or a Dylan that might have been, and each character builds a new mythology around and about an era in Dylan's life. The myths shift, change, take on meanings of their own; what matters is less how they started than where they wound up. Billy gets the short end of this undeniably creative stick; his folklore-steeped Missouri town, where it's always Halloween, tumbles into the absurd, becoming *Deadwood* by way of a dreaming Tim Burton, and the best thing to come out of that segment is a music-video-like scene of Jim James crooning "Goin' to Acapulco" in his otherworldly voice at a funeral. Woody and Jack also have less than satisfying storylines, though it's awkward to call them that, for Haynes isn't often focused on narrative. Too much narrative would obscure the point; the point is in the ideas.

Haynes takes the chameleonic existence of Dylan and shatters it into individual lives, which then only have the narrative push a single life, seen in a handful of scenes, carries. Robbie's story is the most domestic, the most involved with other people, and there's comfort in its structure and emotional weight. Jude's scenes are the most recognizable, and thus they have a different sort of resonance. But despite the differences, these people, their stories, all boil down to the possibilities of reinvention, of mythologizing a figure or that figure mythologizing itself (a fantastic scene involves Jude and Allen Ginsberg, as played by David Cross, shouting at a towering statue of Jesus on the cross). We're all different people, but we aren't all different people in the public eye, shifting and changing, building a tower of others' observations and implications and presumptions. *I'm Not There* couldn't have been about anyone else; it's also not about anyone at all.

EW

I'm Not There ends Thursday, Dec. 6 at VRC Stadium 15.

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AWAKE R
12:55, 3:15, 5:40, 7:55, 10:15
ENCHANTED PG
11:25, 12:40, 1:30, 2:10, 3:20, 4:15, 4:55, 6:15, 7:00, 7:45, 9:00, 9:50, 10:30
HITMAN R
2:20, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35
AUGUST RUSH PG
2:00, 4:45, 7:50, 10:25
NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN R
1:45, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
THE MIST R
12:30, 3:25, 7:10, 10:15
BEOWULF PG13
11:15, 2:05, 4:50, 7:45, 10:30
MR MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM G
12:00, 2:25, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
FRED CLAUZ PG
12:45, 3:40
BELLA PG13
7:35, 10:05
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11:30, 1:55, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35
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SUPERBAD R
[12:45] 4:45, 7:40, 10:20
MARTIAN CHILD PG
[1:05] 4:25, 7:35, 10:30
3:10 TO YUMA R
[1:00] 4:00, 7:15, 9:55
UNDERDOG PG
[12:20] 2:30, 4:40, 6:55, 9:30
STARDUST PG13
[12:55] 4:10, 7:20, 10:10
HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX PG13
[12:50] 3:55, 7:00, 10:05
THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM PG13
[12:30] 4:15, 7:25, 10:15
RATATOUILLE G
[12:40] 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
GOOD LUCK CHUCK R
[12:15] 2:35, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35
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6:55 & 9:30 Nightly Sun Mat 2:30
Philip Seymour Hoffman Ethan Hawke
Directed by Sydney Lumet
(Dog Day Afternoon, Network)
BEFORE THE DEVIL KNOWS YOU'RE DEAD
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More Fire

The white hot life of Joe Strummer

JOE STRUMMER: THE FUTURE IS UNWRITTEN: Directed by Julian Temple. Cinematography, Ben Cole. Music, The Clash. Starring Joe Strummer, Mick Jones, Bono, Steve Buscemi, John Cusack, Johnny Depp, Jim Jarmusch and Matt Dillon. IFC Films, 2007. R. 123 minutes. ★★☆☆☆

I remember the first time I heard it. I was in my bedroom, the cassette of *London Calling* on loan from a classmate. The cover is ominous, depicting a bass guitar held aloft by its owner just before he annihilates it. The music, more than an hour of it, is equally shattering. An unprecedented mix of punk, rockabilly and ska, *London Calling* was transformative — for The Clash, it earned them the moniker “The Only Band That Matters” — but never more so than the opening song, the thrillingly immediate title track. “London Calling” is the aural equivalent of helicoptering over a cliff. Sasha Frere-Jones, the *New Yorker* music critic, once wrote of it, “If you can listen to it without getting a chilly burst of immortality, there is a layer between you and the world.”

Joe Strummer: The Future is Unwritten is a fitting tribute to the singer and lyricist for The Clash, who died suddenly in 2002 of a heart attack. It has an all-access, authoritative feel, due in large part to the volume of richly preserved archival footage, as well as to audio clips from Strummer’s stint as a DJ for the



BBC World Service. Fiercely anti-establishment, Strummer was also something of a changeling, renaming himself Woody during the student protests of the 1960s and Joe for his tenure with the Clash. (His actual name was John.) For a rock star, albeit an unlikely one, he was always eminently quotable, and by all signs he was smart enough to be comfortable with life’s contradictions. As a young

man, he felt art school was “the last resort for malingerers and bluffers,” so he promptly enrolled in art school. He joined several bands, content to play rockabilly until the arrival of

first eight minutes alone, Temple uses still photos, newsreels, cartoons, home movies, early film sequences, promotional/tourism footage and a click-wheel viewfinder to set up his story. It’s confusing and completely disorienting. The good news is that by the end of the first act, Temple abandons most of these techniques altogether. Once that happens, *Joe Strummer: The Future is Unwritten* takes off.

The other Temple idiosyncrasy worth mentioning ultimately proves successful. Instead of filming his contributors in the typical Ken Burns style — which is to say, seated and indoors, their faces viewed in close-up — Temple instead assembles Strummer’s many family, friends and collaborators around bonfires outside of L.A., New York and London. That’s correct: bonfires. My first reaction, at least until Bono and Johnny Depp showed up, was, Why are homeless people being interviewed about Joe? My second reaction was, Were no buildings available? But slowly, the gatherings take on a family-campfire feel as the participants play Clash and Ramones songs together. None of the contributors are named at any point, a matter I found mildly annoying, but after a while the format grows on you. Other than a few misfires, *Joe Strummer: The Future is Unwritten* is an arresting tribute to a true artist, a man wise enough to have said, “If I knew what I was after, I probably wouldn’t bother to go after it.”

Joe Strummer: The Future is Unwritten *opens Friday, Dec. 7, at the Bijou.*

movie clips

OPENING OR RETURNING:

Behind the Mask: Documentary about people who take direct action to save animals from laboratory experiments screens with an appearance by Peter Young, a former animal liberation prisoner. 6 pm Dec. 6, 180 PLC, UO. Free.

Best of the Video Slam: One-night festival features audience favorites from slams held in 2007, including Henry Weintraub’s “Split,” two films by Jesse England and Nancy Miller’s “Untitled Documentary.” The audience will help choose the Grand Slam winner for the year. 7 pm Dec. 8, DIVA. Free.

Black Sheep: If you can see this film’s image of an evil sheep trying to bite someone’s ear off and not laugh, you’re made of stronger stuff than I. When a genetically altered lamb is released into a New Zealand farmer’s flock, the sheep turn into vicious flesh-eaters. Also, one of the characters has a sheep phobia. With effects by WETA Workshop. Ooh, neat! R. 87 min. Bijou LateNite.

Double Team: Jean-Claude Van Damme and Dennis Rodman in a film that has a mere 11 percent freshness rating on Rotten Tomatoes? Plenty to mock here, right? Screens as part of the Heckler’s Movie Night series, 7 pm Dec. 12, Wandering Goat. Free.

Feast of Love: Director Robert Benton’s (*Kramer vs. Kramer*) adaptation of Charles Baxter’s novel was filmed in Portland, and stars Morgan Freeman as a professor watching his neighbors (Greg Kinnear, Selma Blair, Radha Mitchell and others) fall in and out of love. R. 102 min. Movies 12.

Feel the Noise: After he gets in trouble in his New York neighborhood, a young man is sent to Puerto Rico, where he discovers his stepbrother shares his dream of making it big in the music world. A gorgeous dancer helps the pair get on their way. Produced by Jennifer Lopez. PG13. 113 min. Movies 12.

Golden Compass, The: I’m having to restrain myself from writing this movie’s title in all caps and jumping up and down, screaming, “It’s here it’s here it’s here!” Yes, it’s that exciting. The film, based on Philip Pullman’s utterly brilliant novel, is an adventure through a world much like our own — but not. Everyone has an animal companion who’s part of themselves, and one little girl (newcomer Dakota Blue Richards) is the key to saving not just her own world, but countless others as well. With Daniel Craig, Nicole Kidman, Sam Elliott and Eva Green. PG13. 113 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Joe Strummer: The Future is Unwritten: Julien Temple’s documentary about the life of the Clash’s singer and lyricist has some stylistic quirks, but ultimately it’s an interesting, fitting tribute to a musical icon and influence. R. 123 min. Bijou. **See review this issue.**

Sleuth: Go see this brief, clever, stagey film to watch Michael Caine and Jude Law, as a wily writer and the young fellow ostensibly shagging the older’s wife, spar and toy with each other. It’s a bit too stylish, set-wise, and a bit shallow, but it’s still an entertaining excuse to watch actors enjoying their craft. R. 86 min. Bijou. **See review this issue.**

This Christmas: For the first time in years, the whole

Whitfield clan is heading home for Christmas — meaning there’s got to be some drama and tension between siblings. “An overstuffed but satisfying Yuletide comedy-drama with a fine cast,” said *Newsday*; that cast includes Delroy Lindo, Loretta Devine, Idris Elba, Regina King and Mekhi Phifer. PG13. 117 min. Cinemark.

Films open the Friday following EW publication date unless otherwise noted. See archived reviews at www.eugeneweekly.com

CONTINUING:

Across the Universe: Julie Taymor (*Titus*, Broadway’s *The Lion King*) puts her ambitious but unsatisfying spin on a love story built around Beatles songs, following a young man (Jim Sturgess) and the girl he falls for (Evan Rachel Wood) amid the tumult of the 1960s. PG13. 131 min. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (10/18)

American Gangster: Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe face off in the story of 1970s driver turned drug lord Frank Lucas (Washington) and the cop investigating Lucas and his unexpected rise to power. Directed by Ridley Scott. R. 157 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (11/8)

August Rush: Keri Russell and Jonathan Rhys Meyers star as a musical young couple whose lovelorn encounter produces a child. Orphaned “by circumstance” (says the description), the boy (Freddie Highmore) grows up to become a musical prodigy. PG. 113 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Awake: Pretty young things Hayden Christensen (*Star Wars* Episodes I-III) and Jessica Alba (*Sin City*) star in this thriller about a young man who experiences creepy, crazy things while under the knife (but completely aware) for a surgery. R. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Bee Movie: Not much looks all that sweet about this animated comedy, in which Jerry Seinfeld voices a recent bee college graduate who learns, to his shock, that humans have been stealing bees’ honey for ages and ages. With the voices of Renee Zellweger and Matthew Broderick. PG. 90 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Before the Devil Knows You’re Dead: Sidney Lumet’s new film is being hailed as a return to form by many, but there’s something unsatisfying in the bleak tale of two brothers whose attempt at robbery goes terribly, devastatingly wrong. Stars Philip Seymour Hoffman, Ethan Hawke and a raging, quiet Albert Finney. R. 117 min. Bijou. ★★☆☆☆ (11/29)

Bella: A bad day for two people — one a former soccer player, the other a pregnant waitress — results in an unexpected connection. “A heart-tugger with the confidence not to tug too hard,” said Roger Ebert. PG13. 100 min. Cinemark.

Beowulf: Robert Zemeckis, working from a screenplay by Roger Avary and Neil Gaiman, directs this version of the story of the warrior Beowulf, with Ray Winstone in the title role and Angelina Jolie as Grendel’s mother. Reviews are good, but it still looks like a video game. PG13. 114 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (11/21)

Bourne Ultimatum, The: “I remember everything,” says Matt Damon’s Jason Bourne in this film’s action-packed trailer. Director Paul Greengrass and the major players (Joan Allen, Julia Stiles) return to the series’ satisfying third installment, which finds Bourne hunting down his past in stunning locations. PG13. 111 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (8/9)

Dan in Real Life: Poor Dan (Steve Carrell) is an advice columnist with a passel of daughters whose life is further complicated when he falls for his brother’s girlfriend (Juliette Binoche). Also, the brother is played by Dane Cook. PG13. 99 min. VRC Stadium 15.

Dragon Wars: The good: Dragons! In L.A.! The bad: The plot is a convoluted thing about magical powers, resurrected lovers and a dragon that will be able to ascend into heaven. Also, the biggest names in the cast are Jason Behr (*Roswell*) and Robert Forster. But still ... dragons! In L.A.! Can it be better than *Reign of Fire*? PG13. 90 min. Movies 12.

Enchanted: Beautiful princesses! Handsome princes! And ... midtown Manhattan? Amy Adams (*Junebug*), James Marsters (*X-Men*) and Patrick Dempsey (*Grey’s Anatomy*) star in this fairy tale in the real world, which follows Princess Giselle (Adams) after a wicked witch banishes her from her magical kingdom. Why does this Disney flick look so charming? PG. 107 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Fred Claus: So what if Santa had a brother? Who happened to be the opposite of the saintly gift-giver: a repo man? That’s the basic premise of this film, but the reason people will see it, I suspect, is for Paul Giamatti in a Santa suit getting in a fight with Vince Vaughn. PG. 116 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Good Luck Chuck: Chuck (Dane Cook) has a hex on him: every girl he dates finds true love with the *next* guy she dates. Enter Cam (Jessica Alba), a klutzy sweetheart Chuck falls for hard. Clearly, he’s got to wiggle out from under his strange curse. R. 101 min. Movies 12.

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix: The Ministry of Magic is in denial about the return of Lord Voldemort, Hogwarts get a nasty new teacher and Harry ... Harry’s in one kind of trouble or another throughout the mostly successful and only slightly disappointing fifth HP film. It’s not quite *Prisoner of Azkaban*, but it’s getting there. PG13. 138 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (7/19)

Hitman: Timothy Olyphant, go back to *Deadwood*! No, kidding, kidding. But honestly, I’m not sure this videogame-based film about a professional assassin trying to find out who set him up (wait, does this remind anyone of Jason Bourne?) is the best place for you. R. 100 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Labyrinth: Don’t make me start singing the song. You know which one I mean. And don’t miss a screening of this shiny new print of Jim Henson’s *Labyrinth*, one of the most wonderful movies of the 1980s. Jennifer Connelly! David Bowie in tights! Goblins, fairies and talking worms, oh my! PG. 122 min. Bijou LateNite.

Martian Child, The: John Cusack continues to drag his formerly youthful cinematic persona into adulthood with this film about a man who adopts a boy who claims to be from Mars. With Amanda Peet and the always-wonderful Joan Cusack. PG. 108 min. Movies 12.

Mist, The: I keep wondering what’s next. *The Cloud? The Hailstorm?* Stephen King can make monsters out of anything, right? Frank Darabont directs this adaptation of a King short story about a creepy mist that hides even creepier creatures. R. 124 min. Cinemark.

Mr. Magorium’s Wonder Emporium: This story about a magical toy store, its owner (Dustin Hoffman) and the young shop employee who might inherit it (Natalie Portman) is written and directed by Zach Helm, who also wrote last year’s *Stranger Than Fiction*. G. 94 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

No Country for Old Men: The latest from the Coen brothers is a near-masterpiece, an adaptation of Cormac McCarthy’s acclaimed novel, and it’s earning plenty of acclaim itself. The story involves a small-town sheriff, a deadly drug deal and a psychopathic killer (Javier Bardem). The reviewers say “intense,” “searing,” “an evil delight.” R. 122 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (11/29)

Ratatouille: The latest animated film from Pixar is directed by Brad Bird (whose *The Iron Giant* is too often overlooked) and concerns a big-dreaming rat who wants to be a chef. When he makes a deal with a garbage boy, the culinary world of Paris gets far more than it ever imagined. G. 110 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (7/12)

Stardust: Matthew Vaughn (*Layer Cake*) takes a firm and steady hand to the many plot threads of this adaptation of Neil Gaiman’s novel about a fallen star with an attitude and the many characters seeking her. Wicked and charming, sweet and sly, with a stellar cast and a superb sense of humor. PG13. 128 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (8/9)

Superbad: Judd Apatow and Seth Rogen both have fingers in this pie, as co-producer and co-writer, respectively. It’s the story of two high school friends, Evan (Michael Cera, *Arrested Development*) and Seth (Jonah Hill), who are trying — well, in classic teen movie fashion, they’re trying really hard to get laid. They’re about to go off to college; what do you expect? R. 114 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (8/23)

3:10 to Yuma: Russell Crowe and Christian Bale costar in this solid Western from director James Mangold (*Walk the Line*). Based on a short story by Elmore Leonard that was made into a film in 1957, the film follows a vicious outlaw (Crowe) and the Civil War vet (Bale) who’s volunteered to get the thief to the train that’ll take him to trial. R. 117 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (9/13)

Underdog: Jason Lee voices the titular canine, who finds himself superpowered after an incident in the lab of mad scientist Simon Barsinister (Peter Dinklage). Bad guys have plots, but Underdog has a spaniel to impress! Oh, and the day to save. PG. 84 min. Movies 12.

Role Reversal

A quick game of cat and mouse

SLEUTH: Directed by Kenneth Branagh. Written by Harold Pinter, based on the play by Anthony Shaffer. Cinematography, Haris Zambarloukos. Production design, Tim Harvey. Music, Patrick Doyle. Starring Michael Caine and Jude Law. Sony Pictures Classics, 2007. R. 86 minutes. ★★☆☆☆

It's not just a game within the movie, this new version of *Sleuth*; it's a game outside the film to try to track who's playing which roles and who *already* played those roles. Michael Caine, see, is playing Andrew Wyke, the crime novelist who invites his wife's lover out to his country estate, but in 1972, Caine played Milo Tindle, the young actor (or is it hairdresser?), then visiting Laurence Olivier as Wyke (I've not yet watched this version, but oh, I plan to). But there's more: In 1966, Michael Caine played the lead in *Alfie*, which was

remade in 2004 (don't worry; no one else saw it, either) starring Jude Law.

On the other hand, neither director Kenneth Branagh nor screenwriter Harold Pinter — adapting Anthony Shaffer's play — had anything, so far as I can tell, to do with any of those movies. But knowledge of the tangle of twice-played roles may add something to the impression that this new version of *Sleuth* is in large part a very enjoyable actors' workshop in which Caine and Law enthusiastically explore each other's reactions, limits and considerable abilities while Branagh allows things



Jude Law in *Sleuth*

to get quite stagey at times. The occasional closeup on a face (or part of a face) serves to remind us that we are not, in fact, watching a play that happens to have an extraordinary single set, but a film with a great love of gizmos and gusto.

At just 86 minutes long, *Sleuth* is a taut, entertaining game of cat and mouse in which neither the cat nor the mouse is quite sure which he is. At first, Caine's got the

upper hand; it's his absurdly automated house at which Law arrives (an amusing running joke, though it may not be meant to be a joke at all, is that Wyke controls everything in his house with a tiny Mac remote; it's impossible for the device's few buttons to do so much). But after Wyke puts Tindle through his frightened paces, the younger man can't let go of his humiliation. The tables turn, and turn again, leaving the audience to wonder exactly how Tindle got himself into this situation, how Wyke got such a strange notion in his head, and what Maggie — who is never seen in person, but whose figure hovers in the background in the form of a photo and a mannequin — had to do with it. With an ending both ambiguous and definite, *Sleuth* invites a certain amount of post-film speculation, though not *too* much; this is mostly an excuse to enjoy Caine and Law as they glower and spar.

Sleuth opens Friday, Dec. 7, at the Bijou.

WOW HALL

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<p style="text-align: center;">★ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6 ★</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">JEWMONGOUS!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">★ FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14 ★</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p style="margin: 0;">YOUR BAND HERE</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.8em;">THE COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS & MINE (MUSIC INDUSTRY NETWORK OF EUGENE) HOST:</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 1.2em;">HOW TO RELEASE AN ALBUM</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.8em;">A FREE WORKSHOP!</p> </div> <p style="text-align: center;">★ SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15 ★</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">WOW HALL MEMBERSHIP PARTY</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Featuring Entertainment By:</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Forgotten Works Cassandra Robertson Trunkful of Faces Puppet Theater Queen Accordionna hosts Accordion-Oke! DJ KaatSkratch</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Food and Beverages donated by Eugene's Best Restaurants Doors 7:00 pm • Free to members \$10 guests of members, memberships available at the door \$15 or more.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">★ SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29 ★</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">ਫੁੱਬਾਬਜ਼ ਰਿਵਾਜ਼ਾ</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">WITH MATT SEE SMALL ORIGINALS REPERCUSSIONS FEATURING ASHER FULLER + MEMBERS OF REEBLE JAR</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">★ FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7 ★</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">MARV ELLIS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">HIS IMAGINARY FRIENDS AND RADIO ACTIVE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">★ SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15 ★</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">WOW HALL MEMBERSHIP PARTY</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Featuring Entertainment By:</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Forgotten Works Cassandra Robertson Trunkful of Faces Puppet Theater Queen Accordionna hosts Accordion-Oke! DJ KaatSkratch</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Food and Beverages donated by Eugene's Best Restaurants Doors 7:00 pm • Free to members \$10 guests of members, memberships available at the door \$15 or more.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">★ MONDAY, DECEMBER 31 ★</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">FAERIEWORLDS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">NEW YEARS MASQUERADE</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">WOODLAND</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">THE WICKER MEN AND SPECIAL GUESTS</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.7em;">WITH A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY AN AFTERPLAY ARTIST CHRIS MURDOCH</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">★ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 ★</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">EYEDEA ABILITIES</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">APPETITE FOR DISTRACTION TOUR.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">WITH SECTOR 7G ★ ABZORBR THREE BLIND MICS & THE COUGAR HUNTERS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">★ FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29 ★</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">AN ELECTRIC EVENING WITH:</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">JERRY JOSEPH</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">★ WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2 ★</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">DEVIL MAKES THREE</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">AND BAD MITTEN</p>

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Making it Up as They Go

DIVA's IMMI Fest features new sounds, old pictures

Eugene has several festivals and organizations that celebrate old music, and that's fine as far as it goes. But a city that aspires to artistic excellence — a city that will draw and retain young (and not-so-young), creative people — also needs events that bring and stimulate new music. Maybe it's no accident that one of our youngest arts institutions, that upstart DIVA Center, had the nerve and the artistic ambition to create one. DIVA's annual **Festival of Improvised Music and Moving Image** infuses a much-needed young creative energy into a downtown that really needs it. IMMI Fest, which happens this year next Friday and Saturday, Dec. 14-15, draws on two of the hottest art forms, especially up and down the West Coast: indie film and video, and improvised music, and the synergistic interactions between them.

The music improvised by this year's hosts, the **Knotty Ensemble** (whose members hail from Eugene and Vancouver, B.C.) and various guests, isn't jazz, although some improv performers may have jazz backgrounds or even alter egos. Rather, the musicians improvise the structure of each piece itself as well as the melodies and rhythms that flow from it. It's an art form that demands potent listening ability, quick thinking, instinctive musicality, willingness to take risks and, usually, deep and broad musical experience; the Knotties (flute, guitar, bass, drums) have extensive classical music training but incorporate influences from tango to jazz to postclassical avant garde and more. It can be pretty scary to create collaborative sounds out of nothing; maybe that's why some improv musicians have found a common stimulus to respond to: accompanying old silent films whose scores — the music, if any, was performed live in theaters rather than on a recorded soundtrack — are either lost or were themselves improvised.

Friday's film is the great German expressionist filmmaker F.W. Murnau's 1922 classic *The Phantom*, a dark modern fable of obsessive desire. Saturday night features Rupert Julian's famous 1925 *Phantom of the Opera*, starring Lon Chaney. These ghostly visions are perfect for gloomy Oregon winters and intrepid improvising musicians. Friday night's film is preceded by **Very Stereo**, featuring the indefatigable Portland filmmak-

mixing in performance with award-winning Portland experimental filmmaker and video artist **Rob Tyler**, who specializes in abstract projections accompanied by live soundscapes. IMMI Fest is a terrific contribution to the Northwest arts scene.

Another welcome recent Eugene music tradition continues this Saturday, when Cozmic Pizza hosts the sixth annual **Benefit for Famine Relief for South Africa**, which benefits several nonprofit organizations (including Portland-based Mercy Corps and Eugene's Tariro) helping the people of Southern Africa. The headliner is one of Oregon's finest musicians,



Alfonso Maya

er/musician Matt, whose short, intense experimental documentaries have garnered numerous national awards, showings at prestigious film festivals and glowing reviews from *The New York Times* and *Artforum* on down. McCormick also founded the visionary video company Peripheral Produce and the Portland Documentary and eXperimental Film Festival and has worked with many of the Northwest's all-star artists: Sleater-Kinney, The Shins, Miranda July and more. He'll be doing live audio and video

guitarist **Paul Prince**, whose irresistibly danceable music draws on tonal and rhythmic influences from Zimbabwe, Hawaii and other non-Western musical cultures. The show also features **Pachi Pamwe**, a horn-fueled African electric fusion ensemble that blends Zimbabwean mbira, Afropop, hip hop and dancehall, and the pulsating danceable acoustic sounds of the veteran Eugene marimba and percussion group **Kudana Marimba**. World music fans can dance for a good cause.

Cozmic Pizza also has another fine

world music show Dec. 14 when it welcomes back **Alfonso Maya**, the Cuernavaca based singer-guitarist who showed his superb original songcraft here last summer. This time, he'll add covers of songs by diverse folk and underground musicians from Cuba, Argentina and Mexico as well as Spain. This is a great opportunity to encounter a wide variety of music by some of Latin America's finest though rarely heard (in the Northern hemisphere anyway) songwriters. On Dec. 9, Cozmic Pizza also hosts the up and coming postmodern jazz sextet **Reptet**. Jazz fans should give a listen to this Seattle-based aggregation of accomplished multi-instrumentalists who compose, improvise and perform in the jazz tradition.

For a more traditional jazz experience, it's hard to beat the knowledge and experience of clarinetist **Ken Peplowski** and pianist **Dick Hyman**, who play the Shedd this Saturday, Dec. 8. Hyman, the veteran New York master of pre-bop jazz styles who's scored so many of Woody Allen's films, was the first jazz adviser for the Oregon Festival of American Music, an American music institution. His extensive contacts in the NYC jazz world gave OFAM instant credibility and a stream of top-flight performers, including Peplowski, a sweet-toned clarinetist in the Goodman tradition who's succeeded Hyman at OFAM. His ravishing playing on ballads, especially, constitutes some of the most moving and stylish standards-based swing I've heard in years. With nearly a century of work at the highest levels between them, this pair can play anything, but this time, they'll focus on swing.

Finally, one of the city's most deservedly beloved old music traditions continues at Eugene's First Christian Church (Dec. 10 & 12) and Springfield's Ebbert Memorial United Methodist Church (Dec. 11) in the **Oregon Mozart Players'** annual all-Baroque holiday concert, featuring some of the finest music of J.S. Bach (his gorgeous Wedding Cantata, sung by Portland soprano Natalie Gunn) Telemann, Handel and Vivaldi performed by candlelight. **ew**

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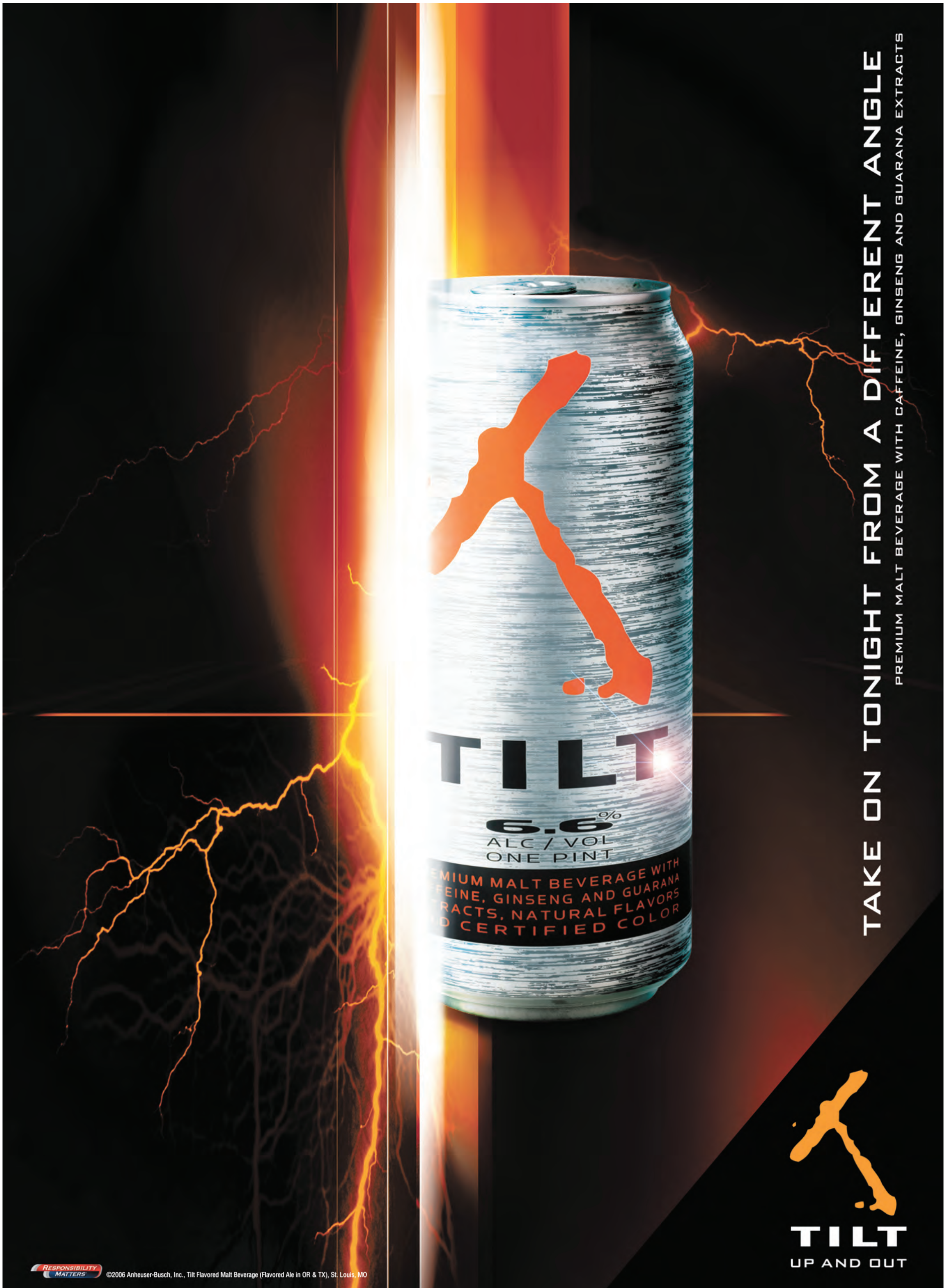
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Toothless Lion

For four albums, Seattle songwriter **David Bazan** chronicled heartache, humdrum and spiritual strife as the only constant member and songwriting force behind the band Pedro the Lion. His music possessed the same mope quotient as Elliot Smith's, but his lyrics, often centering on the ebb and flow of his faith, allowed critics to frequently and unfairly pigeonhole him as a Christian indie rocker. He never used his songs as a pulpit, and his fans, identifying with his bleeding-heart honesty, came from every spiritual and secular stripe. As of last year though, Bazan retired the Lion and began attempting to roar under his own name.

On his first official solo release, *Fewer Moving Parts*, Bazan buries the subtle soul-searching in favor of self-importance and heavy-handed potshots. The first song, "Selling Advertising," takes aim at the record reviewers who focused on his faith. It's a shallow indictment that doles out clichés and stumbles on depthless contention with Bazan singing, "Am I a Christian? Are you a Jew? / Did you kill my Lord? Must I forgive you?" On "Backwoods Nation," the singer (and pastor's son) tries to get political, but ends up preaching to the choir with an overbearing critique of the U.S. The message is as dumbed-down and insipid as the lazy chord progression as he cries out, "Calling all rednecks to put down their sluggers / And pick up their machine guns and kill camel fuckers," and he continues, "Ain't it a shame that due process / Stands in the way of swift justice." It's a vapid satire of the state of the nation, and it just goes to show that it's easy to put your tongue in your cheek when your message has no teeth to begin with. That said, let's hope he resurrects some Pedro the Lion songs. David Bazan plays with J. Tillman at 8 pm Thursday, Dec. 13, at the Indigo District. All ages. \$8. —*Jeremy Ohmes*

Ferocious Furies

"Oh say can you see / By the torn fishnet tights / That it's roller derby / Yeah us girls, we're really tough!" Those are only the first few sassy lines of the Emerald City Roller Girls' (ECRG) Roller Derby Anthem (the melody should be familiar). These badass chicks are in a league of their own ... and looking for some financial support. One team, The Fast Track Furies, is ready to strut some toned skater bodies to help their team make some money at the **Derby Girl Do-It-Yourself Fashion Show**. Music, fashion and short films collide to provide a fun fundraiser night for the Furies.

As of now, the ECRG league consists of several teams stacked with rosters of women who don't make roller skating look cute beyond their tank tops and feisty attitudes: These unpaid and devoted ladies are ready to compete. However, independence can also be financially difficult. The women of the ECRG personally fund their equipment and games. In order to make money for equipment and to help injured teammates, the Furies are hosting a fashion show where they plan to get creative with the classic T-shirt. The Soothsayers, Ms. Led and The Co-Stars will play, and teammate Laura Strobel will premiere a montage of The Fast Track Furies' Oct. 13 "Fall Brawl" game against Fresh Meat. "Some of the teammates are injured right now, and we want to raise money to help them get better," says Jack Hoffman, better known as team captain "One Eyed Jack."

The Fast Track Furies are confident that this is only the beginning of a fun skating year. "It's good to see us progress so quickly and com-



Eyedeas and Abilities



Dirty Sweet

municate well with one another," says Hoffman. "I'm really proud of us. We have come a long way in a short time." The DIY Fashion Show starts at 9:30 pm Friday, December 7, at Sam Bond's Garage. 21+ event. \$5-\$10 ss. —*Katie Cornell*

Feels So Dirty, It's Sweet

Looking more like beggars than monarchs, the guys of **Dirty Sweet** definitely don't seem like the ideal candidates to bring home to meet mom and dad. Unless, that is, your parents happen to be stuck in the '70s

and dig long hair and beards. Doesn't matter — one listen, and you're hooked. Dirty Sweet brings the kind of rock and roll missing from today's music scene with their debut album ... *Of Monarchs and Beggars*.

Dirty Sweet produces a classic rock sound reminiscent of Led Zeppelin and Foghat, and their songs might fit in nicely on the *Almost Famous* or *Dazed and Confused* soundtracks. Contemporary comparisons lean towards The Wildbirds and The Black Crowes (not just because several of the members look like Chris Robinson).

Dirty Sweet, which formed in 2003, has toured with The Killers, Jimmy Eat World and Chris Cornell. They played a month of sold-out shows at Hollywood's infamous Viper Room and took home the awards for both "best rock band" and "best rock album" at the 2007 San Diego Music Awards

"Baby Come Home" will have you shaking and rocking along, wondering who wouldn't want to come home to Dirty Sweet. "Delilah" takes a different route than the Plain White T's song that uses the same name in the title. "Hey Delilah, won't you give me back my favorite blue jeans / 'Cause you know that they look better on me."

Dirty Sweet plays with Limousine and the Dregs at 10 pm Saturday, Dec. 8, at John Henry's. 21+. \$4. —*Anne Pick*

Good Eyedeas

Here in the Northwest, we love us some indie-hop. That's why, come December 9, the WOW Hall will open its doors and welcome the dynamic duo **Eyedeas and Abilities**. Mike Averill (Eyedeas) is best known as a force in the underground battle circuit, grabbing number one spots at the Scribble Jam '99 and the Rock Steady Anniversary in 2000 as well as the HBO-sponsored Blaze Battle in Chicago. Alongside Eyedeas on the ones and twos is DJ Abilities, aka Gregory Keltgen. Like Averill, Keltgen grew up in Minnesota and started cutting his teeth within the local hip hop scene, eventually making a

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name for himself as a talented turntablist. It only makes sense that the two would join forces and create what we now know as the E and A. From the battle ground to the studio, the pair dropped their first album – appropriately titled *First Born* – in the fall of 2001 through Rhymesayers Entertainment. Since then, Eyedea and Abilities have been touring the country and spreading the word, sharing stages with artists such as De La Soul, the Roots and American Head Charge. The combination of Eyedea's intricate lyrical constructions with Abilities' penchant for funk-driven basslines and jazzy loops has caught the ear of many underground hip-hop heads and critics alike. "You can't argue with the musically inventive use of samples here or the range of subject matter covered," says Will Ashon of *Muzik*. "The record carries real emotional weight because of the subjects dealt with and that's still all too rare in hip hop." Eyedea and Abilities perform with Sector 7G, Abzorbr (Kristoff Krane) and Three Blind Mics at 9 pm Sunday, Dec. 9, at the WOW Hall. \$10 adv., \$12 door. – Zach Klassen

The Most Wonderful Time ...

Hallelujah!
Hell yes, I love me some Handel's *Messiah*. Seriously, there's nothing like a good delivery of "For Unto Us a Child Is Born" to make me bop around in my seat at the Hult Center. True, I still try to find the alto parts so I can hum along (in my head, of course, unless it's a sing-along, which this one is *not*) and end up lost in whichever line is dominant. But hey, that's the thing about this Baroque masterpiece: So many notes! So very, very many repetitions of phrases like "And the glory, the glory, the glory of the Lord." (Plus, it's just fun to sing things like "reveal-ed.")

The Eugene Concert Choir hates to send us press releases, for some reason, yet we love the *Messiah* enough to walk our fingers onto the internets and find out that this version is the complete work, an interesting choice by ECC director Diane Retallack. With soloists Eugene fave Maria Jette, soprano; Barbara Rearick, mezzo; Steven Rickards, countertenor (the most ethereal of all voices); Robert Breault, tenor; and Stephen Bryant, bass, the many recitatives might not be so, er, meditative. Retallack has no doubt whipped the choir into gorgeous shape, and the propulsive choruses will kick the season off right.

Of course the whole thing finishes not with a whimper but a bang. Whether you think He shall reign forever or never at all, the Concert Choir will knock your socks off (and make you stand up and sing) at 2:30 pm Sunday, Dec. 9, at the Hult Center. \$19-\$34. – Suzi Steffen

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree

Hey kid, want to hear some holiday classical-pop-rock fusion songs?

No, not the kind of elevator-esque crud on tap at many shopping areas (even Market of Choice has gotten into the agony of Christmas "music" – is nothing sacred in this world?). Anyway, this is something different: Aaron Meyer, a rock violinist who has composed for or played with Everclear, Pink Martini and Smokey Robinson, brings his six-piece band to the lovely Wildish Community Theater in Springfield for the theater's gala benefit concert.

The Wildish, which opened a year ago, hosts a variety of events from music to community meetings to plays (as you can read on page 48 in Sharleen Nelson's review of the Lord Leebrick's *It's a Wonderful Life: Live Radio Play*, which opened at the Wildish last weekend). Meyer comes to spread a little joy and a little crossover violin power. On his excellent website (www.aaronmeyer.com), it's easy to hear clips from his many albums, including several holiday song albums. Whoa – "What Child Is This?" sounds like *that*? In the hands of a string player who loves The Rock Music, it sure does. Meyer, who performed a solo with the Philadelphia Orchestra when he was 11, went on to music school and then a sojourn in Asia that left him as likely to perform in Phuket as Portland, where he now lives with his family. Tix for the show are spendy, but it's for a worthy cause: The theater needs community support. And it's also for a fun cause: Meyer will rock your thoughts about holiday music, stringed instruments and classical musicians. Aaron Meyer and band play at 8 pm Friday, Dec. 7, at the Wildish Community Theater, 630 Main St., Springfield. \$65. – Suzi Steffen



Aaron Meyer

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BLACK FOREST The Hot Moxy, Birds Love Filters-10; Alt-rock
THE CITY DJ Simy-10; 80s, techno, reggae
THE COOLER Karaoke-9:30
COUNTRYSIDE Mr. Wizard-9
COZMIC PIZZA The Touchy Feeliacs-8:30
DIABLO'S DJ Hot Teeth-10; 90s
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Karaoke-7
ELDORADO Roger McConnell Showcase-7:30
GOODFELLAS Johnny Wilde Band-9:30
HAPPY HOURS Karaoke w/Jim-8:30
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S 80s Night w/Chris, Jen and John-10
LONE STAR Texas Hold'em-7
LUCKEY'S The Essentials-10; Funk, soul
MACENZIS TOO Karaoke-7
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Open Mic-9
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Jazz Jam-9
O'DONNELL'S DJs-B-Us: Tim-9
THE OLD PAD Karaoke-9
OVERTIME GRILL West Side Blues Jam-8
RED LION HOTEL Skip Jones & Byron Case-7
ROCK 'N' RODEO Ladies' Night w/Jon Michaels-8:30; Country, rock

SAM BOND'S Scotland Yard Gospel Choir, Huck Notari & The Highlanders-9; Variety
SPIRITS Normal Bean's Jam Night-9
TAP 'N' KEG Rising Phoenix-9; Hip hop
TAYLOR'S DJ Red Fox-10; hip hop
TERRITORIAL WINERY DJs Shawn Kahl & Charles Thump-7; Deep house, '80s
VILLAGE GREEN Karaoke-7:30
WETLANDS Grateful Dead on DVD-10
WOW HALL Jewmongous-8; Songs, comedy

FRIDAY DEC. 7

AXE & FIDDLE Sun Bossa-8:30; Brazilian
BEANERY Ricardo Cardenas-7
BLACK FOREST Gloria, The Bismarck-10; Rock
THE CITY DJ Simy-10; Hip hop revolution, top 40
CLUB 420 Karaoke-9
COZMIC PIZZA The Spruce Root Band, Brent Cole, Caleb Paul-7
DIABLO'S DJ Supa J-10; All-request
ELDORADO Karaoke-9
GOODFELLAS Latago-9
HAPPY HOURS The Alliance Band-9
INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Hoop Dreams & DJ Adam-10; Hip hop, electro
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/DJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
JOHN HENRY'S 3 Blind Mics, Intellectually Sound, Big Balou, A Sol, DJ Pork Knuckles-10; Hip hop, rap

LUCKEY'S Speaker Rhodes, The Windy City Gentlemen, Sirens Grey, Ezra Carey-10; Rock, indie
MAC'S AT THE VET'S The Johnson Unit-9:30; Rock 'n' roll
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Olem Alves-5:30. Inner Limits-9
THE O BAR Karaoke-9
OK TAVERN Lorie's Karaoke-9
OREGON WINE WAREHOUSE Craig Einhorn-7; Classical & contemporary guitar
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Jerry Zybach-7; Acoustic
PEABODY'S PUB Karaoke-9
QUACKERS The Streamliners-9; Blues, funk, soul, R&B
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJs Jon Michaels & Rob Reynolds-7:30; Country, rock, top 40
ROGUE BREWERY Mr. Bill's Trivia Show-8
SAM BOND'S The Soothsayers, Mis Led, The CoStars, hosted by Marietta Bonaventure-9; Benefit fashion show
SAM'S PLACE Karaoke-8
SAMURAI DUCK Drosera, Facing Extinction-9; Thrash metal
SPIRITS The Greg Glass Project-9
TANGO CENTER DJs Herman & Barb-9; Salsa
TAYLOR'S DJ Prestine-10
TIME OUT Caught in the Act Karaoke-9
WOW HALL Marv Ellis & His Imaginary Friends, Radio Active-9; Hip hop

SATURDAY DEC. 8

AXE & FIDDLE Rachel Harrington, Chesapeake Blue-8:30; Americana
BEANERY Johanna-7
BLACK FOREST A(wake), Only Zuul, Dire Wolf-10; Metal, rock
THE CITY DJ Redd Fox-10; Top 40, hip hop, 80s/90s
CLUB 420 Karaoke-9
CLUB SNAFU Freaks Dance Party w/Audio Schizophrenic-9; Electro-mash
COZMIC PIZZA Kudana, Pachi Pamwe, Paul Prince-7; Benefit concert
DIABLO'S Vinyl DJs-10
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Cairo Nights Belly Dance-8
DUCK INN Ben Coleman's Karaoke-9
EL DORADO Karaoke-9
FOUR CORNERS HOP HOUSE Kenny Reed Stone Cold Funk & Blues Machine-9:30
GOODFELLAS Latago-9

INDIGO DISTRICT DJ Hoop Dreams & DJ Adam-10; Hip hop, electro
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/ VJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
JOHN HENRY'S Dirty Sweet, Limosine, The Dregs-10
THE KEG Disco dance-9
LONE STAR Karaoke-9
LUCKEY'S The Underlings, Chance Becomes Fate, The Filthiest People Alive-10; Rock
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Big Monte-9:30; Rock, blues
MAIN ST. SPFD Texas Hold'em-8
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Mike Rossi-5:30. Jon Fiori Quintet-9; Jazz standards, '30s-'50s
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Eagle Park Slim-7. Brothers of Beat & Papa Soul-9; Old-school soul
PEABODY'S PUB Karaoke-9
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJ Rob Reynolds-7:30; Country, rock, top 40
SAM BOND'S The Green Mountain Boys-9; Bluegrass
SAMURAI DUCK Dopethrone Majesty, AKA White Devil, more-9; Metal
SPIRITS The Greg Glass Project-9
TAP 'N' KEG Rising Phoenix-9:30; Retro mix
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Hip hop
TOMMY'S B&G Karaoke-9
VET'S CLUB DJ Mario Mora-9:30; Salsa

WINESTYLES Lori Katz-7; Hawaiian slack key, folk
WORLD CAFE I-Chele & The Circle of Light-9:30; Reggae

SUNDAY DEC. 9

BLACK FOREST Comedy Showcase-8. Pawbox-10; Rock
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9
COZMIC PIZZA Reptet-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Karaoke-10
JOHN HENRY'S Broadway Revue-10; Burlesque
THE KEG Karaoke-6:30
MAX'S Steve Ibach-8; Acoustic guitar
PEABODY'S PUB Open Mic-7
RODEO STEAKHOUSE Family Karaoke-5
SAM BOND'S Irish jam-5. Love That Dress, Finn Riggins, Leo London-9; Rock
VILLAGE GREEN Christopher Klein & Teresa Martindale-7:30
WOW HALL Eyedea & Abilities, Sector 7g, Abzorbr, 3 Blind Mics, The Cougar Hunters-9; Hip hop

MONDAY DEC. 10

AXE & FIDDLE DJ Richard Swift-8; A to Z
BLACK FOREST Karaoke-9
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Bingo-8



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JOGGER'S Texas Hold'em-7
JOHN HENRY'S Chaka Demus & Pliers, DJ Kal-
El-9; Reggae
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30
SAM BOND'S Bingo w/Tom Heint & Scott K.-9
SAMURAI DUCK Cinder Circus-10; Fire dancing
VILLAGE GREEN Eric Daquilanto-7; Soft alter-
native

TUESDAY DEC. 11

AXE & FIDDLE Open Mic-7
BLACK FOREST Black Delany, Shim-10; Rock,
post-punk
COUNTRY SIDE Karaoke w/Kim-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Open Mic-9
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Everybody's Jam-7

GOODFELLA'S Karaoke-9
HIGHLANDS PUB Bingo-6
FOUR CORNERS HOP HOUSE Wang Dang
Doodle Blues Jam-8
JAZZ STATION Spirit of Jazz Jam-8
JOGGERS Karaoke-9
JOHN HENRY'S Get Fresh Tuesdays-10
LUCKEY'S Jesse Meade-10; Acoustic blues
MACHO'S PIZZA Family-friendly Karaoke-7
MAX'S e. geek's Knowledge Knights-7:30
MC SHANE'S Tricycle Races-9
THE O BAR Karaoke-9
PEABODY'S PUB Patrick & Giri-7:30; Acoustic
rock
ROCK 'N' RODEO Texas Hold'em-6:30 iPod hip
hop-9
SAM BOND'S Bluegrass jam-9
SAM'S PLACE Open Turntables-8
TABOO Phat Tuesday w/DJ Tekneek-10;

Zydeco, Cajun, Creole
TAYLOR'S Karaoke-9:30
VILLAGE GREEN Jay Schlotterbeck-7:30; Jazz
WETLANDS Texas Hold'em-6

WEDNESDAY DEC. 12

AXE & FIDDLE Jason Webley, Glutton Mouth-
8; Punk folk, punkabilly
BLACK FOREST The Athiarchists, I Dekay-10;
Metal, punk
THE CITY Karaoke-9
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Downtown Blues Band-8
EARL'S JUKE JOINT Acoustic jam w/Peter
Giri-8
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall
JOHN HENRY'S The Red Elvises-8. DJ Kal El
vs. DJ Tekneek-10; Reggae vs. hip hop
LONE STAR DJ Tony-9
LUCKEY'S Forever Growing-10; Rock
LUNA Jazz jam-9
MAC'S AT THE VETS Irish session band-6
MULLIGAN'S PUB Open mic-9
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Jazz Singers Showcase-9
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Delta Blues Jam-
9:30
QUACKERS Blues & Funk Jam-8:30
ROCK 'N' RODEO Karaoke w/Dan Henson-8
SAM BOND'S Mark Ettinger, Fledging-9;
Variety
SAM'S PLACE Karaoke-8
SAMURAI DUCK Vault Dweller, Shadow of the
Torturer, Sod Hauler, SoulScythe-9; Metal
TAP 'N' KEG Karaoke w/Rising Phoenix
Productions-8
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Jazzy house, hip hop,
disco
VILLAGE GREEN Olem Alves-7:30
WOW HALL Stellar Kart, Nevertheless,

Eleventyseven, Our Hearts Hero-9; Christian
punk

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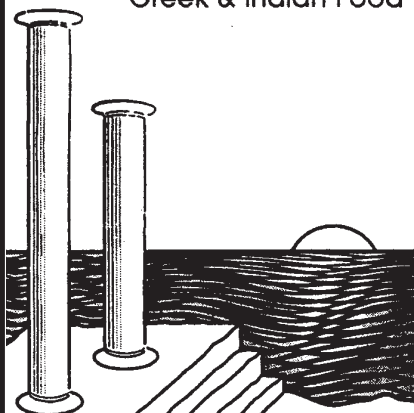
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The Golden Age

It's Wonderful at the Leebrick (and the Wildish)

Lord Leebrick's production of *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* opened to a full house for a two-day run at the stylish Wildish Theater in downtown Springfield. Based on Philip Van Doren Stern's 1939 short story "The Greatest Gift" and Frank Capra's 1946 classic film noir-esque *It's a Wonderful Life*, playwright Joe Landry's adaptation is presented in the style of a live 1940s radio show that hearkens back to the golden age of radio when families came together to hear inspirational broadcasts and wholesome entertainment.

his dreams of travel and college to keep his father's unstable savings and loan company afloat and to protect the town of Bedford Falls from being taken over by the avarice of rich banker Mr. Potter. But on Christmas Eve Uncle Billy misplaces the company's bank deposit. Facing jail and financial ruin, and thinking that his wife and young children will be better off with him dead, George contemplates suicide. With the promise of earning his wings, an angel named Clarence comes down to earth to give George a supernatural look at what things would have been like if he had never been born.

Under the direction of Carol Horne, the versatile cast performs multiple roles of nearly 50 characters. As Harry "Jazzbo" Heywood, Bill Reid skillfully plays the roles of Clarence, Uncle Billy and Mr. Gower. Bary Shaw is great as smooth-talking show host Freddie Filmore but also puts in a terrific performance as smarmy Mr. Potter. As Lana Sherwood, Sharon Sless captures the spirit of the flirtatious Violet and the elder Mrs. Bailey, as well as George's youngest child Zuzu; Connie Hymer does an excellent job as former Miss Ohio Sally Applewhite playing Mary Bailey. As Jake Laurents, Jeff Pierce gives Jimmy Stewart a run for his money playing the venerable George Bailey. Finally, Dale Jestice has his work cut out for him making many, many sound effects and playing Mr. Welch.

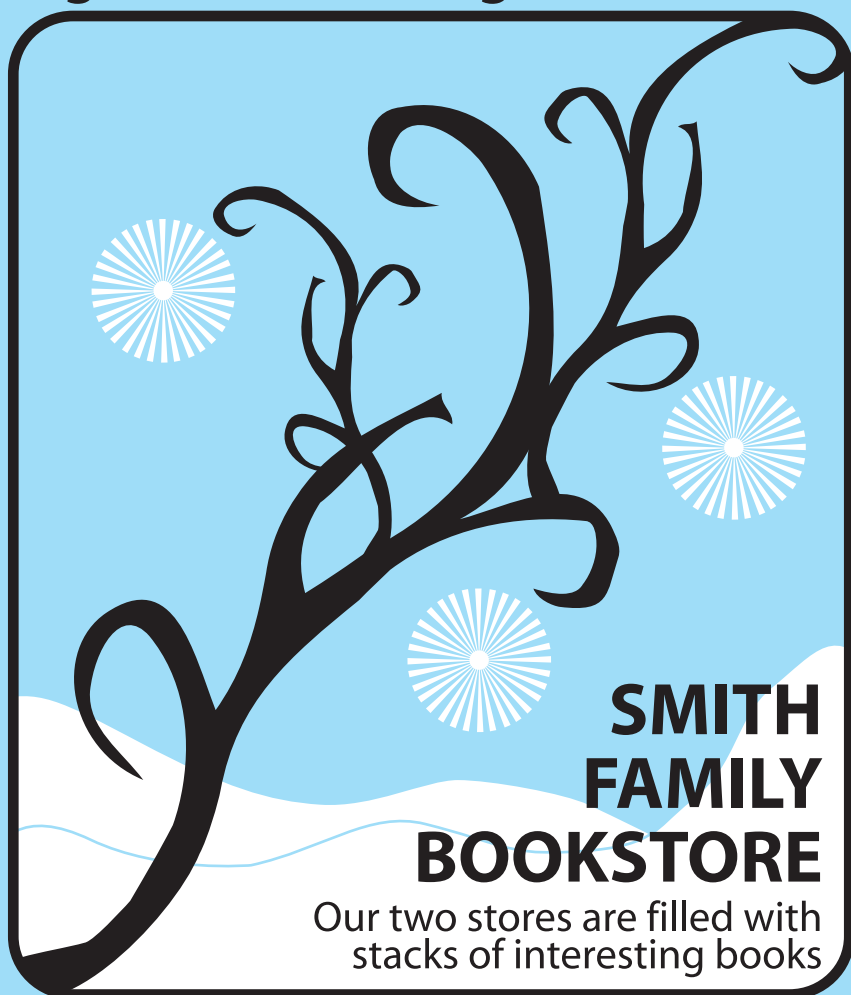
It's interesting to note that although God, angels and prayer played a prominent role in the film, in 1947 a memo to the director of the FBI reported that some sources viewed the film as subversive and pro-Communist because of its negative depiction of the capitalist Potter and the triumph of the common man Bailey. With today's holiday pressures to buy an HD plasma TV, toxic toys, the latest techie gadget or a Wii and to decorate our yards with blow-up Santas and snow globes, *It's A Wonderful Life* is as relevant today as it was then, maybe more. Perhaps we should recapture the inexpensive joys — like Zuzu's petals and angel's wings — and the simple act of getting together with family and friends.

EW

The play continues at Lord Leebrick Dec. 6-9 and 13-16. For tix, visit www.lordleebrick.com or call 465-1506.

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Yep, the Actors Cabaret of Eugene's *A Christmas Carol*, Broadway musical version, will leap into your brain, and you'll leave the theater humming the song "Christmas Together" — that is, unless you run into one of the several Jewish members of the cast, and she or he sings you the special rewritten Jewish version of the all-too-catchy tune. Then you will laugh, remembering there's a world outside of greenery and ribbons, a world where bells don't jingle all the time and

where grandparents aren't always bedecked in Santa hats and flashing LED displays.

Not that there's anything wrong with that.

For a couple of hours, ACE's over-the-top celebration of the holiday classic definitely entertains. How you are entertained, exactly, depends on your attitude toward large helpings of schlock — though admittedly it's schlock with a sweet attitude and a joyful sound. One is not supposed to laugh at the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Be, but did the ghost come from Mordor by way of a rave? And oh, the jacks-in-the-boxes. However: There's so much to enjoy that *Christmas Carol* should woo anyone, even Grinchy performing arts editors (and if not, there's

whiskey for sale during intermission).

In the program, director Joe Zingo writes that this version is sure to remind audience members of the first time they saw *A Christmas Carol*. True. I remember my mom taking my sister and me, dressed in holiday finery, to the Missouri Rep's annual *Carol*: Victorian-costumed carolers entertained us in the lobby; The Ghost of Christmas Present seemed three stories tall; Scrooge was *mean*; the graveyard scene was scary. In short, I remember spectacle. And that means ACE's show is as it should be. The story can be a bit more realistically bleak, as in the WillRep's currently running *Carol*, but for young families wanting a ritual holiday celebration, this Broadway version should work marvelously.

Anyone familiar with Alan Menken's music will hear echoes of his other musicals ("A Whole New World" from *Aladdin*, the opening town scene from *Beauty and the Beast*). Lynn Ahrens' lyrics stick mostly to the text but deviate enough to provide a *Les Miserables*-like reference to stars and compassion that leads to the signature line of any *Christmas Carol* — "God bless us, every one."

This ACE production celebrates the various families intertwined in the theater's frequent productions. Did we see some of these same people in *Seussical*? Did we see them in *Bat Boy*? In *A Christmas Carol*, 2006 version? How about in *All Shook Up*? Yes, yes, we did.

The delightful Ashley Apelzin appears in several roles (including the Ghost of Christmas Past in a wintery wedding-like

costume), and Tyler Holden turns his focus from the Cat in the Hat in *Seussical* to a rather amusing Bob Cratchit here. The two young Cratchits (Maggie Clark as Martha and Bryce Walters as Tiny Tim) charm away, and the ubiquitous Marc Innocenti makes Marley's Ghost look like the monster in *Young Frankenstein*. As kind Mr. Fezziwig, Rob Olson stands out, and Kevin Boling uses his knowing countenance to excellent effect as the Ghost of Christmas Present. Other repeat performers fill the stage with lovely tableaux, freezing when the various ghosts speak to a goofy Ebenezer Scrooge (Bruce McCarthy). The lavish production with its gorgeous costumes and incessant soundtrack showers decorative holiday scenes upon Eugene.

At the end of the recent UO/LCC production of *The Threepenny Opera*, cast and crew took up a collection for St. Vinny's, trying to stay true to the play's message of honoring the poor. If *Christmas Carol* is about nothing else, it's about changing the behavior of the wealthy in order to benefit the downtrodden. ACE dons the mantle of giving with a "Tiny Tim's Food Drive" for FOOD for Lane County, something that a reformed Scrooge would no doubt support. Whether audience members are warm from the glow of alcohol or "Christmas Together," they'll happily pony up and make the season that much brighter. Without LEDs, at that. **EW**

ACE's A Christmas Carol continues Dec. 7-9, 14-16 and 21-22. Go to www.actorscabaret.org or call 683-4368 for tix.

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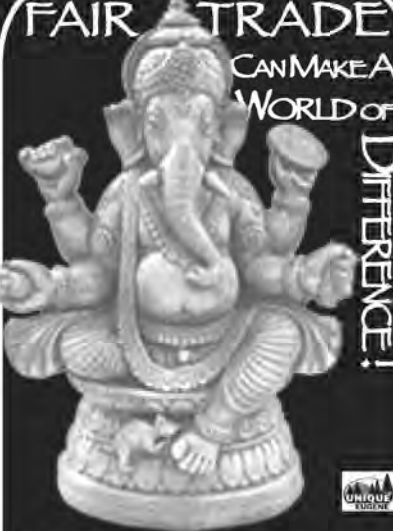
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wine BY LANCE SPARKS

Space Tripping

Finding beauty and mystery, above and below

Christmas carols trilled through my head in disconnected jumbles — “We wish you a merry Christmas ... jingle baum ... snow is glist’ning” — as the groaning Otis judgered to a grinding halt on the 19th floor of the crumbling old high-rise in the heart of Eugene. I ambled down the Hall of Busted Tiles, past my office door — the pebbled glass misted in reds, greens and ambers — to reach the lone window overlooking the soggy streets below. I peered down on Sears’ Pit, overgrown in blackberries among scattered trash and a fetid swamp. Oddly foreshortened knots of Gen Z kids congregated, shivering and wet, under various awnings, clouds of smoke and steam rising from the clumps. Christmas decorations struggled to assert seasonal spirit in the dispiriting gloom.

As nasty as human behavior ever gets — the greed, madness, murderous wars, disease and destruction — it doesn’t add up to one meteor strike, won’t make an eddy in a stellar wind.

But I was calm, almost blissful.

I had just been to the moon.

Not really, of course. Really, I’d been to the Hubble Telescope website (I keep it bookmarked), to their gallery of images. I’d clicked, awestruck, through Tadpole Galaxy, 420 million light years from us, streaming its tail of stars. I’d stared into the Cat’s Eye Nebula, only 3,000 light years away, with its fearful symmetry of spreading gases, remnants of a dying sun. I’d lingered in Cassiopeia, a mere 10 light years from Earth, a supernova artifact blasting stellar wind. Closest to home was our own moon’s Aristarchus Plateau, a meteor crater 26 miles wide, couple miles deep, a blow that struck with the “energy of a million atomic bombs.”

Those interstellar visions make me feel better about events here on Third Rock. It’s perspective, see? As nasty as human behavior ever gets — the greed, madness, murderous wars, disease and destruction — it doesn’t add up to one meteor strike, won’t make an eddy in a stellar wind. That doesn’t mean we should stop trying to be/do better, but knowing galactic worst cases makes Earth-scale worsts a bit more bearable, at least in my mind. In fact, I felt a glow for the season of giving.

I drifted back to the office, entered, found Mole scampering around in elf green, gleefully stringing lights, singing some old English carol called “The Hedgehog Song,” the only line of which he knew was “the hedgehog cannot be buggered at all.” Love the guy. We went to the lab and the Wines of Christmas:

First business is rectifying: When I wrote a recent piece about Thanksgiving touring,

I’d ended the tour at “Lorane Valley.” I’d meant to write Chateau Lorane. Sure, folks got there anyway and, no, I’m not their PR flak, but the place IS quite spiffy, perched above Lake Louise, and they DO make good wines. Cruise out, drop in. Try their honey mead, a traditional Christmas quaff if ever there was one. Wine-savvy folks also talk nice about the **Chateau Lorane Marechal Foch Port**, available at the winery.

Thinking parties and feasts, more turkey maybe? Two dry white

wines would be welcome on the table or as host-gifts: **Domaine de la Beaucassone 2005 Cotes du Rhone** (\$14), a blend of grapes from the south valleys of France, flavors complex but round, with notes of flowers, citrus, wood. Hard to go wrong, ever, with New Zealand whites: **Saint Clair 2006 Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc** (\$16.50) is delish, bursting with tropical fruits and herbal tints, silky smooth and finely balanced, would match with seafood, Asian dishes, even bird.

Got a pinot-head on your list? Frantic end-of-term activities made us miss, but wine mavens we trust report that **Domaine Drouhin 2005 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir** rang the bells at a recent massive tasting, and it’s bargain priced at only \$40 “for a limited time.” In the more approachable range, folks liked **Dylan’s Run 2003 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir** (\$16.50). These are Eugene neighbors out on Briggs Hill Road and they have committed the vineyard to sustainable practices (costly but Earth-friendly), and the wine is superb, still fresh, youthful, with complex berry flavors, good structure and finish.

Ray Walsh, owner/winemaker for Capitello Wines, dropped in the other night and made us taste **Wahle Vineyards and Cellars 2003 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir**: very special, deeply layered in dark fruits and berries, underlying tones of smoky wood, top notes of cherries and roses, oh my. Turns out we can’t have any more, but Wahle’s 2005s are in the markets, with 2006 recently bottled and coming soon. Can’t find ’em? Go on the web, wahlevineyardsandcellars.com, fill your cybercart.

Kat and I soired recently at Chez Mark and Denise Lyon, sipped through a couple dozen top-shelf California cabs, all from the ’97 vintage, most ticked at prices that put them out of our reach, but some were benchmark wines, restored my lagging lust for Napa-cabs. If you’re gifting a cab-fiend, look for reliable names — **Caymus, Sterling, Silver Oak, Heitz** — but steel your nerves for sticker shock. Pals Mike and Mary brought to dinner Rodney **Strong 2003 Single Vineyard Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon**: classic flavors of dark berries, hint of mint, gobs of oak, rich and yummy, jacketed at 30 bux. Gulp.

Time to trip back into space. If I cross paths with Santa, I’ll send him your way. Find me scanning Saturn’s rings or galloping along the Horsehead Nebula. And happy new year to all y’all in the old Milky Way. **EW**

Jeff Fields (left) and Bill Teriele of The 'Wich House



TODD COOPER

Leap of Faith

New downtown businesses find success among empty storefronts

In an era of politically charged uncertainty surrounding the destiny of Eugene's downtown, the choice to launch a new business in what appears to be a Bermuda triangle of capitalism might seem insanely risky.

But a handful of local entrepreneurs recently decided to take the plunge and open their doors to a seemingly ambivalent public, demonstrating that "revitalization" can come in smaller packages than the fiscal behemoth proposal represented by recently defeated Measure 20-134. The 'Wich House and The Starlight Lounge are doing their respective parts to bring energy and cash flow to the heart of town, each with a small business strategy designed to forge success in politically, economically and socially sensitive locations.

Jeff Fields and Bill Teriele of The 'Wich House were thrilled when they came across their 8th and Willamette location. They had originally intended to open a catering business, but they decided the high traffic, high visibility storefront was perfectly suited for a sandwich shop and set about designing their own approach to feeding downtown shoppers and employees.

"One of our biggest pet peeves collectively is that everything is prepackaged and preprocessed these days," says Teriele. "We bake our own bread, roast our own meats. We make everything here — the truffles, the cookies, the pies."

Fields explains in that in their efforts to "take sandwiches to the next level," they consider the elements of complete meals and combine them between two pieces of bread (white, wheat, or herb focaccia). The Steakhouse 'Wich, for example, is an entire steak dinner in a handheld package, containing filet mignon, port wine roasted grapes, bleu cheese and sweet greens. Pot roast, turkey and gravy

and pork chops with apple sauce get the same treatment, while vegetarians can drool over the Poached Pear 'Wich, adorned with brie cheese and candied walnuts. They also serve homemade soups, fresh salads, beer and wine.

Fields and Teriele worked as a biochemist and a horse trainer respectively in their earlier lives, and came by their foodie skills under radically different circumstances. Fields' grandfather taught him the art of baking while Teriele was classically trained at the Culinary Institute of America and has been in the restaurant business since the age of 15. "Our strengths compliment each other's weaknesses," they say. Neither feels overly concerned about the purported curse of downtown.

"We like the location a lot," Teriele says. "Our friends have lived here their whole lives, and they want downtown to be better. I've been to every state, and you see the same strip malls everywhere, and it just tears me up. But there are great, creative people and great downtowns all across the country. It

just takes a little re-education." Teriele and Fields say they would like to see more shopping or possibly a movie theater in their neck of the woods.

Jo Dee Moine has been putting her time and energy into the downtown area for years as the owner of Luckey's (bar, pool hall, music venue, former cigar club). "When I first moved downtown, it was like a ghost town," she says. "It was not a pretty picture. Now it has changed dramatically. You see mini traffic jams."

Noting the consistent success of her own establishment as well as a handful of other bars located in the cross section of Olive and Broadway, Moine decided to open The Starlight Lounge as an upscale compliment to the pool and rock 'n' roll atmosphere of Luckey's. While the Starlight immediately generated buzz by offering selections of Ninkasi and shots of Patron for a dollar, Moine feels it is the specialty cocktails and local focus that ultimately keep patrons coming back.

"We have about 20 distilled spirits, all made in Oregon. The next trend in the alcohol industry is craft distilleries. We have one that is flavored with Doug fir." In addition to specialty booze, The Starlight also buys local produce when possible, utilizing the nearby farmer's market and mixing with high quality, fresh squeezed fruit juice. The dramatic décor, attentive staff and delicious libations have all added up to early success for The Starlight.

"We've just seen it grow really fast," Moine says. "It's been a lot busier than we thought, and we've gotten a lot of compliments."

What about the risk of opening a business in such a contested area? Moine says she feels downtown is already hitting its stride.

"Whether it is improved through condos and retail or whether it stays the same, there is a lot of interest in downtown.

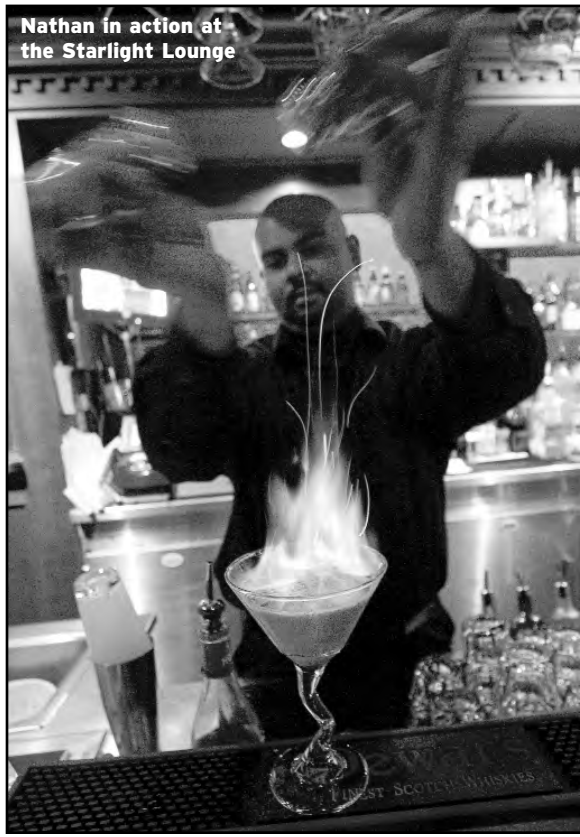
We feel really positive about being downtown. I see a lot of smaller projects moving forward. Downtown isn't as bad as they like to portray it in the media. I'm downtown every day, and it isn't perfect, but there is a lot going on."

Moine says that the recent arrival of Davis' restaurant has been a good thing for her neighborhood and she would like to see other high-end establishments become her neighbors.

"More restaurants, everyone wants to see more housing. Some more boutiques and retail would be good," she says. "I want to see Josh [Keim, owner of Lucky Noodle and Ring of Fire] put a restaurant on Broadway."

EW

Nathan in action at the Starlight Lounge



TODD COOPER

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Bulletin Board

Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Department of Probate CASE#50-70-23974 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the ESTATE of Brian Fletcher Moats Deceased, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 15, 2007, Anna Wilczynska was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative, at 2586 W. 28th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Phillip M. Williams, Attorney, 132 E. Broadway, Ste. 731, Eugene, OR 97401 (541) 484-9566, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: November 29, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Department of Probate CASE#50-70-23975 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the ESTATE of David Joseph Moats Deceased, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 15, 2007, Anna Wilczynska was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative, at 2586 W. 28th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405, or sent to the personal representative, in care of Phillip M. Williams, Attorney, 132 E. Broadway, Ste. 731, Eugene, OR 97401 (541) 484-9566, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding in this estate may obtain additional information

from the records of the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: November 29, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Probate Department In the Matter of the Estate of IRA BARRY KLEIN, Deceased. Case No. 50-07-22514 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Susan Klein has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative in care of the personal representative's attorney, John F. Kieran, at 975 Oak Street, Suite 625, Eugene, Oregon 97401, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published November 21, 2007.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE PROBATE DEPARTMENT In the Matter of the Estate of: Donald Kenneth Cramer, Deceased. Case No. 50-07-15296 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned personal representative at 42158 Highway 58, Lowell, OR 97452, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative, Patrick J. Kouba, Attorney at Law, 158 East 14th Street, Eugene, Oregon 97401. Dated and first published this 21st day of November, 2007. Natalie Kay Mazzulla, Personal Representative.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE In the Matter of the Estate of ABLERT F. ERICKSON, Deceased. No. 50-07-23264 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Wanda L. Twomey has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned Personal Representative, c/o Barbara K. Bower, Attorney for Personal Representative, P.O. Box 688, Junction City, Oregon 97448, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative or the attorney for the personal representative, Barbara K. Bower, Barbara K. Bower, P.C., P.O. Box 688, Junction City, OR 97448. DATED and first published December 6, 2007. BARBARA K. BOWER, P.C., Attorney for Personal Representative.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE, SUMMONS: B.J. JUSTICE, aka CHERYL HAINZ; aka CHERYL B.A. HAINZ, Plaintiff, vs. SCOTT E. JUSTICE, SUMMER JUSTICE and BARBARA L. HAINZ aka BARBARA LYNN SULLIVAN; BRANDY ELAINE SMITH; TERRY HAINZ TRUST (T.L. Hainz and Teresa Sullivan, Trustees); TERESA K. SULLIVAN aka TERESA LORRAINE SULLIVAN, aka KATHRYN SULLIVAN, aka KATHRYN T. SULLIVAN; aka T. KATHRYN SULLIVAN; aka TERESA KATHRYN SULLIVAN; aka TRISH SULLIVAN; aka KATHRYN SULLIVAN; aka TERESA L. SULLIVAN aka TERRY HAINZ; aka TERESA MOORE; aka T.L. HAINZ; aka TERESA BLANEY; and TERESA L. SULLIVAN; L. HAINZ, Trustee; BARBARA SMITH; TERESA SUMMERS; TERESA HALBERG; T. HAINZ; TERESA JOYNER; TERESA WERNER; TERRY SULLIVAN; L. HAINZ; ABANDON SHERRY JUSTICE; TERRY BLANEY; TERESA SULLIVAN; TERESA LORRAINE BLANEY; and SCOTT E. JUSTICE as Trustee for Kyle Justice and Chris Justice; and ALSO ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, LIEN, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN. Defendants. Case No. 16-06-25242 TO: The defendants and also all persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, lien, or interest in the property described

in the First Amended Complaint herein. IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and defend the First Amended Complaint filed against you in the above-entitled cause within 30 days from the date of first publication to this summons on you; and if you fail to appear and defend, the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the First Amended Complaint; NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days of the date of first publication specified herein along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the plaintiff's attorney or, if the plaintiff does not have an attorney, proof of service on the plaintiff. If you have any questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF THE LAWSUIT 1. This action is brought to quiet title in the plaintiff in certain parcel for real property located in Lane County, Oregon. The land at issue is described as follows: 25959 and 25963 Hall Road, Junction City, OR 97448. Parcel XI: Beginning at a point in the center of Hall County Road No 423, South 89° 36' 20" East 1227.35 feet from the 1 inch iron rod marking the Southwest corner of Section 8, Township 16 South, Range 5 West of Willamette Meridian said point being referenced by a 5/8 inch iron rod North 0° 57' East 30.00 feet; thence leaving the center of said Hall County Road N 0° 57' E 466.83 feet to a point marked by a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence S 89° 36' 25" E 712.91 feet to a point marked by a 5/8 inch iron rod; thence S 0° 07' 25" E 466.84 feet to a point in the center of said Hall County Road, said point being referenced by a 5/8 inch iron rod North 0° 07' 25" West 30.00 feet; thence along the center of said County Road N 89° 36' 20" W 721.66 feet to the point of beginning, in Lane County, Oregon. Plaintiff prays for a judgment declaring her to be the owner in fee simple

of the above listed property declaring that the defendants have no right, title or interest in the property. The date of first publication of this summons is: December 6, 2007. Dan Armstrong, OSB #881517, PO Box 546, 582 NW Van Buren, Corvallis, OR 97330 (541) 754-7477.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell personal property from units(s) listed below to enforce a lien imposed on said property under the Oregon Self Service Storage Facilities Act (ORS 87). The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on the 8th day of December, 2007 at 11:00 a.m., on the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at 4 Corners Self Storage, 599 Hwy. 99 N., Eugene, State of Oregon, the following: Michael Baehne-C170, Joseph Columbo-A31, Rick Berry-C159. Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in cash only. All purchased items sold as is and must be removed at the time of sale. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

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ASK A MEXICAN!

BY GUSTAVO ARELLANO

Dear Mexican: I was born in beautiful El Paso, and my parents are from Juaritos. I always wondered why Mexican restaurants en los Estados Unidos use queso amarillo – which I associate with los Estados Unidos – on their food instead of queso asadero or queso Oaxaca, which taste so much better. And who came up with Tex-Mex or New Mexican food names? – El Minero de Albuquerque

Dear Albuquerque Miner: Silly chuco! You and your ilk are so advanced in the Reconquista que se le olvidan that most non-Latinos still don't know



Spanglish! So, before I answer tu pregunta, a translation note for non-wabs: "Juaritos" is a nickname for Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, "queso amarillo" is "yellow cheese," a "chuco" is someone from El Paso, and "los Estados Unidos" means "E.E.U.U."

On to the question — although the Mexican is all-knowing, he also knows when others know more, you know? And so I forwarded your query to Robb Walsh: food editor for the Houston Press, author of *The Tex-Mex Cookbook*, one of the most Mexican gabachos since Charles Bronson.

Walsh traces the yellow-cheese phenomenon to America's eternal headache: Texas. "The Texas exhibit at the Chicago World's Fair of 1893 was a recreation of [a] San Antonio chili stand," he tells the Mexican. "It served chili con carne and other Mexican-style foods to Midwesterners for the first time. The food caused a sensation — the buzz at the fair created a rush to market 'Mexican food' products" across the country that were really Tex-Mex grub. Thus, most of what passed as Mexican food in the United States until recently is really Tex-Mex food, Walsh says, and "Tex-Mex is known for its gooey melted cheese."

But why the queso amarillo, gabacho? "Mexican white cheese doesn't melt very well," Walsh continues. For *The Tex-Mex Cookbook*, he interviewed older chefs who attested to his position and also explained that, "during World War II, the 'Wisconsin' — as cheddar was known in those days — wouldn't melt, either. That's when [Mexican cooks] started using American cheese." As for the language portion of your question, Minero, Walsh responds thusly: "The term 'Tex-Mex' was originally used to describe the half-English, half-Spanish patois spoken on the border — hence the bilingual food names. When you say cheese enchiladas, beef tacos, chips and salsa, guacamole salad, cold cerveza, and 'Hey Baby, que paso?' you are talking Tex-Mex." Read more Walsh wackiness robbwalsh.com.

Mexicans complain that corporate America places obstacles on the brown man's ability to succeed. However, when I speak with Mexican-American law students and inquire as to what type of law they want to practice, the vast majority express an interest in criminal, plaintiff, government or nonprofit type of law. It's rare that I speak with a Mexican that wants to tackle corporate law. I hear the same when I visit with college students – they seem to focus on entry-level jobs. The expectations seem very low. ¿Qué no tiene hambre la raza or what is the deal? – Hot for Scalia

Dear Gabacho: Your assertions will come as a surprise to the chingo of Mexican students who graduate each year from American universities, to the members of the dozens of Hispanic/Latino/Chicano/Mexican-American/whatever-wabs-like-to-call-themselves-in-a-particular-region Bar Associations across America, and to the many vendidos who learned long ago that the quickest road to assimilation is a six-figure salary and a blond from Wellesley. Not only that, but you fail to explain what's so wrong about trabajando for the public sector. It might not be the most glamorous career track, but working for nonprofits, the courts, and other such small-fry plaintiffs truly is God's work, and you know how tight Mexicans are with Diosito — indeed, recently translated sections of the Nag Hammadi library have revealed the previously unknown Gospel of Jesús. Besides, the way America's economy is tanking (caused by our reliance on oil and China's rise and not illegal immigration, gracias very mucho), concentrating on the wretched of the legal system seems like the best investment since Google in 1996.

Gustavo Arellano is an investigative reporter on staff at the OC Weekly in Orange County, California. His "Ask a Mexican!" column began in 2004 and today is syndicated in 32 publications nationwide. He is also the author of a book by the same name. An extensive interview with Arellano can be found in the EW archives online for Nov. 29, 2007. Arellano can be contacted at TheMexican@AskAMexican.net

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3				8			
		1		2	3		
	2			5		6	
4		7		8			
	9		2	7		3	
				6		4	7
	3		6			8	
		4		5		1	
			9				4

Place numbers 1-9 so that each row, column and 3x3 square has each number only once. There is only one solution. Visit www.sudokuplace.com for a puzzle solver. ©sudokuplace.com All rights reserved.

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M T W Th F Sa Sun

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3:30p	•					•
4p						•
5p	•			•		
6p		•	•			

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Jonesin' crossword

By Matt Jones

"The Second Half"

-that's when results get determined.

Across

- Newman's Own competitor
- facto
- No one tells them to shut up
- Verve
- Explosive sound
- "American Gangster" actor
- Evolution's triumph over creationism?
- Director Elia who controversially "named names"
- Jacko's song claim
- Cover charge beneficiaries
- Precursor to "the dole"
- Talk drunkenly
- Fish sought out by Marlin
- Honda del
- Box top insertion
- Do the doob
- Improv group
- "Men Necessary?" (Maureen Dowd book)

- Fake priest Sarducci
- Lee "Scratch" Perry genre
- Mythology with Mjolnir
- "be my pleasure"
- network
- Rural rds.
- Parental units, with "the"
- Uri Geller claim
- Anti-piracy org.
- Message parlor sounds
- They often feature silhouettes of naked women
- West wild names
- "friend!"
- Bugs bugged him
- Transmission with the heading: "FROM: THE GREATEST PITCHER EVER"?
- Vega and Sirius, for two
- Hogwarts messengers
- Two-time Indy winner Luyendyk
- Aunt, in Augsburg
- Alphabet segment
- Daily dosages

Down

- Do a party no-no at the snack table
- San Antonio site
- Actress mentioned in Madonna's "Vogue"
- Oblivious to danger, maybe
- "Son of," in Arabic names
- Explosive sound
- Agronomist's concerns
- Defunct science fiction magazine
- He played Magneto in the "X-Men" trilogy
- Former Yankee Hideki
- "Cosi fan tutte" or "Die Zauberflöte"?
- McGregor of "Velvet Goldmine"
- Cell phone button
- In neutral
- Abbr. on a cognac bottle
- Invoice fig.
- "You got that right!"
- Justy maker

- over teakettle (upside-down, to Brits)
- Sources of some allergies
- "The weekend can't get here fast enough"
- Send plea
- Tom Cruise or Keith Urban?
- "Flags of Fathers"
- Descriptor for tiny towns
- Talking test
- Exxon, in other countries
- It may be flipped
- Gillette gel brand
- Watching
- Vet's office noises
- Woodard of "Desperate Housewives"
- Kilt pattern
- Big band section
- Kick back
- Utah ski resort
- Hershey's brand with a crown on the wrapper
- Final: abbr.
- Sch. whose mascot is Chief Osceola

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
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58	59					60			61			
62						63		64	65			
66						67				68		
69						70				71		

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T	W	E	R	P	R	A	S	P	B	I	A	S
M	O	T	O	R	E	S	T	A	U	N	D	O
J	O	E	S	I	M	P	S	O	N	S	T	O
P	O	T	E	R	A	T	O	D	A	T	E	
J	O	H	N	W	E	L	L	R	A	D	I	S
S	H	E	B	A	G	A	I	T	N	E	D	
E	M	U	A	R	L	O	E	M	I	L		
D	O	R	E	M	I	A	N	I	T	A	D	O
T	O	Y	L	A	N	D	E	L	M	E	X	T
S	A	Y	E	S								
I	G	O	T									
S	H	U	E									
H	I	T	S									

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6:00pm	•	•	•	•	•		

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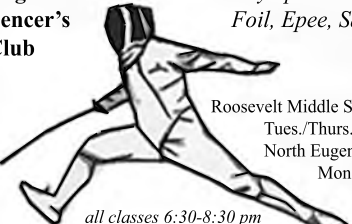
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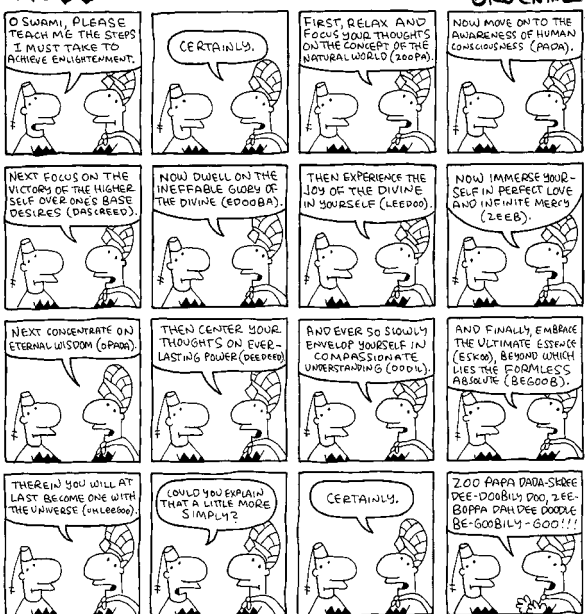
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LARGE ROOM, in the woods. Private bathroom; large and well-equipped kitchen; 3,000-book library, swimming pool, gym, cable tv, wireless Internet, fireplace, washer and dryer, dishwasher, a/c, workshop. On bus lines/bike paths to the UO and to downtown. \$450/mo + utilities. Call Matteo 232-7636.

LARGE ROOM in Eco Friendly house. \$375. River Road, vegetarian, tidy, bike friendly. tel 686-6761. <http://www.suburbanpermaculture.org/wr.htm>

2 ROOMS to rent. SE Eugene, 1.5 mi from UO, WD, Internet, great back yard, utils included. \$500-\$550/mo. Chris 225-773-4778.

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SHARE 3 BDRM forest country home. \$300 per bdrm. Creative, peaceful, quiet, close to shopping in Waltherville. Call 206-1241 for info.

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women seeking men

MUTINY NEEDED
Nicer girl, Uofo, needs compassionate guy. SWF-concerts, coffee breaks. Am small, light haired, finishing classes in cognitive psych. above board and looking for a non-smoking guy 25-39. ☎ 2441

HELLO OUT THERE!
I am looking for a genuine, authentic, honest, employed man in his 50's. I can always spend time with me, but I would rather spend time with you. Drop me a line. Tell me about yourself. A photo would be nice. NS ND Write to blind box "Hello" ☎

AAA
Active, Attractive, Athletic-Youthful, SWF, HWP, Mid forty's, mom, honest, classy, fun, sense of humor, educated, professional, with a love for the outdoors, would like to meet a SWM with similar characteristics for possible LTR, NS ☎ 2364

DOWN TO EARTH
40 yr., seeking kind, adventurous friend for outdoor activities, live music and movies. ☎ 2359

WHERE ARE THEY??
Where are the good guys who know how to treat a lady right? Sensual SWF in 50's looking for good company, fun, laughs, mutual satisfaction and possible LTR. No fools. ☎ 2356

HI WARREN
It's been years, but recently, I've been thinking of you and your son. Hope you are well. If you're in-between relationships, I'd enjoy seeing you again. If not, then-all my best, Barbara. ☎ 2351

men seeking women

LOOKING FOR FRIEND
SWM, 34, 5'10, athletic & easy going. looking for friend to hang out with, attend shows/social events. I enjoy bike rides, leisure dining, live music and sharing. would like to meet anyone willing to share and have fun ☎ 2437

VEGAN ON THE COAST
Seeking partner for hiking/exploring the Oregon coast and the great northwest. 5'7, 160, witty, fun, humorous, adventurous. Scrabble, movies, photography. You? Friends first, possible LTR. ☎ 2436

MISFIT SEEKS SAME
I have looks, brains, a house, and I don't fit in anywhere. Perhaps you feel the same way? Maybe we fit together? 40ish, healthy, non-smoker, creative type, etc...Ask and I will tell. ☎ 2434

ISO LTR
SWM, NS, seeks compassionate woman 30-50 to share life in an open heart space. Well educated, progressive, over traveled, kids a plus. Looking to create a LTR in a safe emotionally growing space. ☎ 2420

DEEPER EXPLORATIONS
Beyond the hiking, beach, Bijou, wine and dancing all EW women seem to, are there still HWP women 30-50 (mothers especially welcome) who want deeper conscious connection on all levels? ☎ 2419

FUN GRANDPA
SWM, 54, lives at the beach, likes the mountains too, loves to fish & crab, cook & garden, enjoys a glass of wine. Seeking single woman with similar interests. ☎ 2414

ISO A WIFE
Looking for a wife that can have a child. I believe that I can care for a wife very well. I have a state of mind that is called legitimacy. ☎ 2413

SHOW ME THE ROPES
Hot SM 40 ISO hot horse-loving women 25-45 who can show me the ropes on a part time bases. I am very interested in finding you. ☎ 2411

SEX & INTIMACY
SWM 44 ISO lovely woman who is 30-45 in shape, well-groomed and knows the difference between sex and intimacy and likes both. ☎ 2410

MARATHON MAN
Handsome, 5'8, 140 lbs, 45 yo, well endowed marathon man. ISO: cute, playful, sexually aggressive women 35-55, 150-190 lbs with alot of spare time. Safe, clean. Not seeking LTR. ☎ 2404

SALSA PARTNER
I'm looking for a Salsa dance partner to practice with, 18 to 40, willing to learn with me. ☎ 2402

DEXTER SKI CLUB
Single male 43 seeks unattached tree skiing tele buddy to assist with trail planning/grooming at new local ski area. ☎ 2369

LOOKING FOR LTR
SWM, 58, 6'3, blondish brown hair, blue eyes, nonsmoker/drugs, loves taking trips to the coast, exotic animals & birds, fishing, hiking, sports. ISO SWF, 30-50, no kids, NS, ND, for ltr. ☎ 2353

FIND IT
ISO fit, ALIVE, playful women or couple for potluck, playing or listening to music, hot tub, group/single massage. Goal is to create safe, playful quality experience. Questions? ☎ 2226

FREEDOM IN REACH
23 yo convict with hard body, good looks and tattoos. Am fun, spirited and deep souled. Seeking a woman's correspondence to secure relationship before parole. Write to blind box "Freedom". ☎

women seeking women

BI WOMEN'S GROUP
Meets the third Friday of every month at 7:00 pm. Call for more details. Please No Men/TG/TS. ☎ 2062

men seeking men

NICE GUY
Meet someone open-oriented. ☎ 2225

i saw you

SUPREME BEAN SAT.
I was with my daughter, you were alone. Coffee sometime? ☎ 2375

JOHN HENRY'S
Hottie boy bartender @ John Henry's Saturday 12/1. Oh my you were fun to watch last night. What else are you fun at? ☎ 2440

THE KIVA 11/30
You were looking for smaller garlic and my friend helped. Your smile has been haunting me and I'm kicking myself for not talking to you. Coffee or drinks? ☎ 2438

HABITAT FUNDRAISER
Me: tall with red cap. At the Habitat for Humanity fundraiser you stopped to admire my lamp, but we didn't have time to light it up together. ☎ 2418

LADY JENNIFER!
Milady! Upon our acquaintance Thou gavest me a Hambo and a Contra, and I were grand! Yet the twain sufficeth not! Pray, couldst, wouldst come again and grant thine humble servant yet another dance? L'homme a la fleur. ☎ 2416

DRS. CHAMPER/KARTH
Back to back appts. on Monday, mid afternoon. We smiled, said hello couple of times. You good looking in your turtleneck and gray cords. Was that you on 2W Oak St. garage two days later? Could only see black silhouette against light sky background. Coffee? ☎ 2415

BOOK STOLEN
You stole my author signed "sci-fi" book...my notes won't help you understand the truth. I'm looking for you to make this right. ☎ 2409

A LOVELY LADY
I saw you @ the U of O Education bldg 11/19/07. Astounding smile and laugh, blonde hair up, jeans and Uggs boots w/ a blue backpack. Do you like wine? Call me, sexy-pants! ☎ 2408

SUNDAY AT MARKET
You: Cute sys w/ orange & black scarf. Dropped your beanie leaving Holiday Hall. Me: Black bob w/ bangs. Diablos Friday for Roller Derby? ☎ 2407

LOST CREEK BRIDGE
Fellow McKenzie River hiker. Met at Lost Creek. You were Belknap bound with two friends. I can't believe I didn't ask your name or number. Interested in coffee or lunch? Later hikes? ☎ 2405

NOTICE ME 2
sam bonds bingo. smoking cloves in your sweater. i almost spilled beer on you and i still don't think you saw me. your laugh is contagious, love me forever. ☎ 2401

TRADER JOES 11/17
You: 30's, handsome, dark hair, male, shopper-evening, leather jacket, smiled while leaving. Me: Latina, brunette, petite, black cap at register around 7:30 pm. Unattached? ☎ 2400

MY SCENE
You, brutish pony-tailed Norseman buying Aqua Dots at local craft store. Me, graying mullet buying small sculpted figures and model railroad shrubs. Building a diorama? Coffee? ☎ 2399

PAUL'S BIKE SHOP
Cute boy came into Paul's Fifth Street last week. I was the pretty girl with glasses. We chatted and I helped you pick out some neat footwear. Call me and I'll rock your socks off... ☎ 2398

PAD THAI
Pad Thai girl on Monday the 19th(night): Are you really that sweet and genuine? If you want to hang out, 'this is a special time'. ☎ 2396

3 DUCKS AT DAVIS
Thanks for the post-game invite to Rum. Sorry we didn't exchange any contact info. Since you prefer hoops-how about another game? ☎ 2373

free will astrology BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): This would be an excellent time for you to visit terminally ill patients in a hospice or go on a tour of a maximum security prison. To take maximum advantage of the current cosmic opportunities, you might also travel to the Slum Theme Park in Americus, George, where Habitat for Humanity has built replicas of the leaky-roofed, earthen-floored, bug-infested huts that so many millions of the world's poor call home. In other words, Aries, I recommend that you give yourself firsthand exposure to people whose problems are much more demanding than yours. To do so at this juncture in your life's journey would provide a helpful shock that would inspire you to conquer the personal challenge you find most daunting.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): These last two weeks before the solstice will stir up a vortex of novelty in your depths. Among the sparkly surprises swirling around down there will be some shimmering intuitions about your life in 2008. So stay on high alert, Taurus. Snag every one of those prophetic glimpses. Here are questions to focus your attention: What new interests are gestating within you? How is life asking you to modify your ideas about who you are? What do you suspect will be your best three creations in the coming year?

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): I love how electrifyingly your intelligence works, Gemini – how fast you can comprehend things that other people require many twists and turns to grasp. But I don't love how your quick mind sometimes alienates you from those who are moving more slowly than you, and I don't love it when that undermines your ability to capitalize on your brilliance. Fortunately, I don't think this will be a problem in the coming days. From what I can tell, you will have uncanny fun without making any karmic messes as your brainpower generates breathtaking feats of voluminous understanding.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Hell isn't an imaginary place dreamed up to scare the faithful, according to Pope Benedict XVI. He says sinners are actually tortured by fire for all eternity. My opinion is that his crazy talk is less worthy of consideration than the rants of the homeless guy downtown who thinks evil reptilian extraterrestrials have taken over George Bush's brain. To prime you for this week's advice, I ask you to purge any tendency you might have to believe in cartoony notions of hell like the pope's. That will free you to meditate on the possibility that we do in fact ultimately suffer for the pain we cause others. Not by being literally tortured in a demonic realm, not at the hands of a "devil," but rather by the ugliness we have unleashed inside us. It's a good week for you to spend quality time in your personal hell, Cancerian, making up for any hurtful or greedy or unconscious things you may have done in 2007. (P.S. You're not any guiltier than the rest of us; it's just that this is a good time for you to atone.)

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): To many Tibetan Buddhists, the snow lion is a symbol of fearless joy, which is a cornerstone of their spiritual practice. I trust that in 2007 you have learned a lot about this sublime quality, and I hope you will make it the basis of your daily rhythm in 2008. These last two weeks before the solstice will be an excellent time to integrate all the teachings you've absorbed about fearless joy, and to prime yourself to take your mastery to the next level. What other terms can you come up with to describe this superpower? How about "brave bliss," "aggressive happiness," or "fierce pleasure"?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In some places, you can't buy a gun 15 minutes after you get an itch to hold it in your hand. In America, for example, a few of the states force you to delay your purchase for a short time. Many countries also require couples seeking marriage licenses to endure a cooling-off period of a few days before they can officially tie the knot. I urge you to adopt this approach to making important decisions, Virgo. Impose a waiting period on yourself if you're thinking about acquiring heavy artillery, intensifying your relationship commitment, altering your consciousness, or initiating any other big action.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You're coming to the climax of the season of fertile tension and productive arguments. (Let's hope you haven't allowed it to devolve into the season of fruitless disputes and awkward silence.) As you prepare to harvest the full potential of the opportunities that have been made available, I offer you three pieces of advice from the French essayist Joseph Joubert. (1) "Never cut what you can untie." (2) "It is better to debate a question without settling it than to settle a question without debating it." (3) "The aim of argument, or of discussion, should not be victory, but progress."

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You won't believe how talented you're going to be at blending pragmatism and idealism in the coming days, Scorpio. You may be amazed at your knack for being down to earth and up in the clouds at the same time. Among the feats you could accomplish are the following: making money from doing what you love; acquiring crucial nuts and bolts for a long-deferred fantasy; and turning lead into gold just in time to make a big down payment on a dream boat, dream home, or dream trip.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A man in Santiago, Chile won \$250,000 in a contest held by his bank. There was only one catch: In accepting the money, Mario Habit had to abide by the bank's stipulation that he spend all of his winnings in one day. Summoning a manically relaxed concentration, he succeeded, paying off his substantial debts while also buying two cars and three apartments. I believe a comparable opportunity is about to come your way, Sagittarius. You will be offered a new resource or blessing that has to be used quickly in order for it to be fully available and effective.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The phrase "new roses" can serve as an antidote to neurosis in the coming days – as a kind of magical spell. Invoke it whenever you're in danger of getting undermined by either your own neurosis or someone else's. If you notice, for instance, that your subconscious mind is spiraling down into a sour fantasy stirred up by one of your habitual fears, start muttering a cheerful round of "new roses, new roses, new roses." If your allies engage in compulsive behavior that they tend to get stuck in when stress overflows, chant "new roses, new roses, new roses" in a blithe, sing-song tone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Few people realize that in the 15th century the Buddha was canonized as a saint by the Roman Catholic Church. He was officially called Saint Josaphat, a name that's derived from the word "bodhisattva," which refers to a deeply compassionate person devoted to becoming an enlightened being. Virtually every element of Josaphat's life story as reported by the Church is a duplicate of the original legends about the Buddha. I expect to see a comparable theme unfold in your life in the coming weeks, Aquarius. I bet you will get credit or receive an honor or be given an acknowledgement that seems rather accidental, or comes from an unexpected source. Like the Buddha, you will richly deserve the reward, even though it may feel odd or askew at first.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): How would you go about relocating Tanzania's Mt. Kilimanjaro to the south of France? How might you undo and fix the debacle of America's occupation of Iraq? What steps could you take to creatively disrupt the pathological family patterns that have knocked you off-center for years? In 2008, I predict that you will have extraordinary potential to solve impossible problems like those. More than ever before, you will be able to attract the help and summon the inspiration necessary to accomplish goals that have previously seemed beyond your power. And it all starts now, Pisces.

HOMEWORK: Write a summary of the great task you plan to accomplish in 2008. Testify by going to RealAstrology.com and clicking on "Email Rob."

Go to **RealAstrology.com** to check out Rob Brezsnys

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i Love You

ONE SLIP PLEASE
Daddy, Help me. Want you to come get me. Why did you send me away? You told me to wait, and I will, but for how long? How will I know? Ur BB Girl ☎ 2412

DEAREST LAILA
2nd Thanksgiving trashed. Be free just come home to roost. Our love is alive. I am devoted to you. I love you. Come home James

DO YOU EVEN EXIST?
Women out there who want a nice guy: Do not walk all over us, but love us back and be loyal to us. Appreciate how very rare we are. ☎ 2374



Princess

Got your note call me. Love Skypilot. ☎ 2417

BEST FRIEND?
Funny girl who loves wine and cheese, is seeking new best friend, for dancing, movies, and fun! Must have open mind! ☎ 2435



alternatives

BORED ARTIST
been out of town awhile, would like some sexual adventure, some new friends, whatever whatever. I'm tattooed swm hwp std free. ☎ 2439

A.N.R. / A.B.F
Adult nursing relationship wtd. What's that? Google it. Seeking someone with brains, calmness & curves. I have lots of good qualities, & talented lips. Tell you more. e-mail? phone? ☎ 2433

DO YOU SWING
Couples, select singles, looking for others to swing, talk or observe. No twerkers or crack heads. Lite drinkers auk. Discreet, STD free, good people wanted. ☎ 2406

FOR WOMEN ONLY
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FUN LOVIN
SWM, mid 40's, nice looking, hard working guy, hwp seeks a fun lovin woman for talks, cuddles and trading body rubs, it's cold outside let's make it hot inside. ☎ 2397

KINK-A-HOLIC
Dan Savage ain't got nothin on me. Ready to twist your kibbles in more ways than a Chinese buffet. Ladies? Gents? More than enough parts for each of you. ☎ 2362

LOVE-SPORT TEAM
Gentleman seeks like-minded woman to practice better love-making techniques. Share fun experiences and learn new foreplay, climax, and cool-down movements with a generous, experienced, safe, caring, discreet partner. ☎ 2357

SINGLES WHO SWING!
SWINGING SINGLES party group starting. No partner required. What is your area of interest? Straight? Bi? Gay? All boundaries respected. Safety required. Contact for more info. ☎ 2355

SEXUAL NEED
SWM, 6', 162 lbs, with a 6" toy between my legs, needs sexy woman with a naughty mind, and sexual need. Married or single. Very discreet. ☎ 2354

WELL ENDOWED
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Savage Love

WORDS OF PURE WISDOM by Dan Savage



Dan! I can't believe you wrote that response to Hawt And Royally Depressed! He wrote because his wife of 10 years had "let herself go." Men and women were hitting on him and he had to resort to stoning before he could be with her. And you told this asshole to "be honest with her." Your version of "honest" was the verbal equivalent of hitting her with a sledgehammer! If what HARD says is true, it sounds like his wife is depressed or has health issues. HARD may have gotten his physical body into shape, but emotionally he is an out-of-shape, immature mess!

Distressed & Disgusted

I didn't write that response to HARD. Not one skinny word of it. You see, D&D, two weeks before HARD's letter appeared in the column, I answered a letter from a gay guy with a fat boyfriend. Seeking A Solution, who described himself as outgoing and athletic, wasn't attracted to his boyfriend of three years. After describing himself as "stuck," "struggling," and on medication for anxiety, SAS told me I wasn't allowed to tell him to break up with or cheat on his fat boyfriend. So I advised SAS to drink heavily and warned him that sooner or later he would sabotage this relationship in order to be with someone he was actually attracted to.

Readers—mostly female readers—were outraged: Before breaking up, before cheating, before drinking heavily, couldn't SAS try being *honest*? Why didn't I tell SAS to tell his boyfriend that the weight was a turn-off and that SAS was seriously thinking about ending the relationship if the boyfriend didn't lose those extra pounds? By not recommending a little honesty first—by pushing a breakup instead of a little heart-to-heart—I had revealed myself to be a cynical and heartless faggot.

HARD's letter arrived when I was sorting through all this outraged e-mail about SAS and I thought, "Gee, I wonder what would happen if I cobbled together a response for this hetero HARD from all this advice these women sent in for this sissy SAS?" The advice you read in this space for HARD—all about being honest and open (including those now-infamous conversation starters like, "You have gotten fat and unattractive and my sex drive is nil, so can we do something about it before I bail on you?")—was written by my female readers. All I did was change the pronouns from male to female.

And guess what? It turns out that honesty—at least when we're talking about a woman's fat ass—isn't the best policy after all. Honesty about a partner's premature and avoidable physical deterioration is only fit for faggots, it seems. So what should HARD tell his wife? My outraged readers weigh in:

Your advice to HARD was WAY off. I'm a firm believer in truthful, open communication, but not in this area. I have a close friend who dumped her boyfriend because he told her she had gotten too fat. We all hate him now for saying that. HARD needs to realize that being overweight lowers a woman's self-esteem. He should approach her gently, say absolutely nothing about not being attracted to her, and play the "I'm concerned only about your health and well-being" card.

If he takes your advice and tells her she needs to shape up or he's shipping out, hopefully she will muster the self-respect to dump him—just like my friend dumped her asshole ex-boyfriend who was "just being honest."

An Angry Fat Girl

Gotcha, AAFG—HARD should play the "health and well-being" card and refrain from being honest. Righto.

I'm sure you've been slammed plenty for the advice you gave to HARD, so I'll keep it short: Don't EVER tell someone to "bring up the health thing," as you did in your response.

Each and every one of us fatties soon learns that this is code for "I think you're ugly and disgusting but I'm not allowed to say that so I'll just pretend I'm concerned for you." All kinds of people—distant aunts, strangers on the subway, siblings' one-night-stands—who don't bat an eyelash at your smoking like a fish or drinking like a chimney are suddenly so concerned about your well-being. Which is why most of us fatties react very badly to anyone bringing it up. Honesty is good, but "bringing up the health thing" is not really helping since a fat person equates it with dishonesty.

You're No Health Guru

Gotcha, YNHG—don't bring up the health thing. Righto.

A man should be honest with his wife, Dan, but telling a woman she is fat and unattractive and that if she doesn't lose weight he will leave is NOT sound advice. It will only cause her to spiral out of control. Instead, HARD should talk to his wife about exercising together and make a healthy food plan. But he should do so without telling her that if she doesn't lose weight he will never want to sleep with her again.

What Were You Thinking

Gotcha, WWYT—a man should be honest with his wife. Except about her premature and avoidable physical deterioration, the impact this is having on their sex life, about how miserable he feels, and about how he's seriously contemplating adultery or divorce. About those trifles, a man should keep his counsel. Just encourage her to exercise and make a healthy food plan. Righto.

I speak from experience when I say that there is nothing HARD can tell his wife that she doesn't already know. And while I'm all for honesty, there are times when it equates to cruelty. Moreover, offering to lift weights together or create a food plan, etc., will only humiliate his wife. Here's what he can do: Since he loves his wife and since their relationship is more than skin deep, he can acknowledge that even though she's lost her attractiveness, she still deserves to be treated with love, tenderness, and affection. He can support anything she tries to do about it without judging her if it doesn't work.

PG

Gotcha, PG—love and support, no criticism or judgment, no offers to exercise together, no healthy food plan, and no griping if nothing changes. Righto.

I have to agree with what you said to HARD—and I'm speaking from the other side of the thin-fat relationship. While my wife is still at the weight she was when we married 10 years ago, I had packed on over 100 pounds. She finally brought up the effect this was having on our love life. It wasn't a pleasant talk but I'm trying to lose weight and am having some success. I'm 25 pounds lighter now thanks to her honesty (and a heart scare). Being fat is a health and relationship problem, and our spouses need to speak up and be honest with us.

Getting Thinner

Yes, GT, but a spouse should only be honest when the fat spouse is male, the honest spouse is female, and—shit, we're out of room. For tons more about HARD—including the actual advice I sent HARD privately—go to www.thestranger.com/savage/hard.

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